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BULLETIN

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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

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Exhibition—Mrs. Fern Irving, 4612 Saratoga, Omaha 11, Neb.

Kodachrome Slides—Sam Caldwell, 444 Chestnut St., Nashville 10, Tenn. Write for list of Slides. Rental Fee—\$5.00.

Membership—W. F. Scott, Jr., 407 N. Florissant Rd., Ferguson 21, Mo.

Registrar and Recorder—Robert E. Allen, Aurora, Via Terra Alta, W. Va.

Scientific—Dr. L. F. Randolph, N.Y. State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

The Bulletin Staff:

Geddes Douglas, Editor; Nancy Hardison, Assistant Editor; Sam Y. Caldwell, Rob't S. Sturtevant, Jesse E. Wills, Associate Editors.

Address all CONTRIBUTIONS to THE BULLETIN, 444 Chestnut St., Nashville 10, Tenn.

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FOREWORD

IN 1942 I wrote an article for the Bulletin entitled "Prelude to Pink." At that time tangerine bearded irises were novelties. Melitza had just been introduced, Flora Zenor was a sensation and the now famous Flamingoes had just burst forth *en masse* in the garden of Mr. Dave Hall.

Believing these separate events to be tied together in some fashion and that there might be "something new under the sun," I gathered together every piece of information I could find concerning their sources and set it down as related facts with no attempt at an explanation.

In subsequent years, Dr. Randolph and other geneticists have been able to arrive at a plausible explanation of the appearance of the tangerine-beard-pink-bud phenomenon. The early information has been correlated with subsequent facts assembled by the Scientific Committee and by scattered individuals. All in all, we probably know more about this particular genetic phenomenon than any comparable development in iris breeding. But, our information should not stop here. We need a mass of accumulated facts.

In the membership of the AIS there are hundreds of people crossing iris by the thousand. There will be many cases where the tangerine beard will appear as a *primary break*. That is, it will pop up in a batch of seedlings from two parents, neither of which had a tangerine beard. Let me illustrate. In 1943 I crossed a seedling of Morocco Rose X Sundown with the Sass polychrome Sunset Serenade. One seedling from this cross had a tangerine beard. Neither parent showed the beard. This is the kind of information the Bulletin would like to have. Every PRIMARY BREAK we are able to record will add to the general information and eventually we may be able to track down the actual source or sources of the gene for this factor.

Information concerning the appearance and the number of tangerine bearded seedlings from crosses involving two irises where only one carried the beard is still valuable.

You as a reader can help us by simply reporting such items and, in fact, any other unusual happening. There are still many things to learn. For instance, if you have a plicata with a tangerine beard, or a red, or a yellow or *mirabile dictu*, a real blue, don't fail to write us about it and give all information possible. Possibly such a happening has already taken place. If so, look up the records and write the Bulletin immediately. We are planning to devote an early issue to the tangerine bearded Pinks and we would like to have your information as soon as possible.—THE EDITOR.

Don't Miss This "Never Never Land"

Have you ever seen a bayou? A pirogue? A house on stilts? Have you ever stood in bright southern sunlight and filled your lungs with the soft breeze that came a thousand miles across tropic seas? Have you ever seen an oak tree whose gnarled limbs, draped with hanging moss, spread fifty feet from its massive trunk—a tree that was old in years when Longfellow wrote of the gentle French folk that came to sing their song of tragedy in the shade of its branches?

There are fields of spider lilies whiter than snow against the dark, brackish water in which they grow. There are amaryllis, lycoris, nerines, azaleas and camellias in the meanest backyard garden. There are pecan and tung trees, fields of rice and sugar cane, endless cups of black coffee and smiling dark-eyed people who address you as "M'sure!" Louisiana is the country of which we are speaking, the state in which we are to hold our next annual meeting. The meeting itself is to be held in the bustling city of Shreveport, located in the northwest corner of the state. Shreveport is in the pine covered, sand-hill country but not too far distant from the land of the bayous to make it impractical to include it in your trip.

If you come to Louisiana from the East, you will enjoy the trip through Mississippi. You will cross the black land spoken of as the "delta," though it is many miles from the sea. By all means route yourself through the "Iris capital of Mississippi"—the city of Grenada. Mrs. T. B. Revell, RVP of Region 7, and her able associates will proudly show you an excellent planting of the newest in tall bearded novelties. In Mrs. Revell's own garden you will see an amazing collection of iris species.

Traveling south from Grenada you will pass through historic Vicksburg and on to Natchez where it is still possible to get a fleeting glimpse of the grandeur of the "Old South" only slightly contaminated

Frontispiece—Newly appointed as the RVP for Region Ten is Mrs. Milton Trichel, who poses here with Mr. H. M. Robertson. Both are former Presidents of the Society for Louisiana Irises. Mrs. Trichel pioneered in the culture of tall bearded irises in the Shreveport area and was a leader in the movement which resulted in the affiliation of the Society for Louisiana Irises and the AIS. She is a successful farmer, grandmother, botanist, collector and iris hybridizer. Her introduction CADDO won the Mary Swords DeBaillon Award in 1950.

by jet planes and labor unions. Tours of the old houses to the accompaniment of zithers and hoopskirts are available—for a fee. Don't miss Natchez, the trip is definitely worth your while, even if the 1950 version of Aeneas Africanus will probably say "Yas-suh" to you with his tongue in his cheek.

South of Natchez you will cross into Louisiana and come to the quaint little town of St. Francisville. I know of no other place better suited to prepare you for what is to come than St. Francisville. By the time you get there, you will have driven a long way, and in spite of yourself you will be all keyed up. You will have set up a schedule of so many miles today, so many for tomorrow and so on. Perish the thought. At the first corner, turn your car from the highway and stop under a convenient shade tree. You will not have to go far off the main street, just a block or two will do. Then get out and look around. It will soon dawn upon you that it is still possible to fabricate a way of life from something else other than chain stores and television!

This is the way to see Louisiana, not from the ribbons of concrete that traverse a great and modern state, but from the byways, where *English is the language that is taught in the school*. From St. Francisville you will go to Baton Rouge, then across the great river to the land of the bayou.

In an accompanying article, Marie Caillet, Secretary of the Society for Louisiana Irises, has obligingly listed many points of interest to the traveling irisarian. There are many others. The church and the grave of Evangeline at St. Martinville on Bayou Teche is one. They will tell you of other places when you get to Abbeville. From Lafayette, most of the towns listed by Miss Caillet can be visited on a swing first south, then west across the state to Lake Charles. From there the road leads north again, to Shreveport, somewhat less than a day's drive away.

Of course, all this adds up to a vacation, a real one. But why not? It is the chance of a lifetime. To do what? Why to visit a country where the name Broussard replaces Smith in the telephone book, and where the frost never gets on the pumpkin for two reasons. First, there is no frost and second, there are no pumpkins.

1951 ANNUAL MEETING

April 12, 13, and 14, Shreveport, Louisiana

Region 10 of the American Iris Society cordially invites you to the 1951 Annual meeting in Shreveport, Louisiana, on April 12, 13, and 14th. Members of the American Iris Society in the Shreveport area will act as hosts. The three day program includes tours to the most outstanding iris collections, both bearded and beardless, in North Louisiana. The first scheduled tour will leave headquarters at one o'clock Thursday afternoon giving ample time for registration Thursday morning. There will be someone at the hotel Wednesday afternoon to register the "Early Birds." All evening activities will take place at the Washington-Youree hotel which will be official headquarters.

The schedule as planned follows:

Thursday, April 12—8 o'clock until noon, Registration. Busses leave for the Conger garden in Arcadia, Louisiana, at 1 o'clock. Other gardens featuring irises will be visited. The busses will return to Shreveport in time for the scheduled 7:30 supper at the Washington-Youree Hotel. After supper there will be an informal showing of slides and movies. Visitors having slides will be welcome to show them.

Friday, April 13—Opening day of the Shreveport Iris Society's Iris Show, in co-operation with the American Iris Society. The show will be staged in the Washington-Youree affording pleasure for any spare moments that might occur. 7:30 A.M.—Busses will leave for the tour of local gardens. Luncheon will be served at the American Legion Club on Cross Lake. Buffet supper at the Hotel will precede Miss Caroline Dormon's illustrated lecture, "LOUISIANA IRISES."

Saturday, April 14—7:30 A.M. Busses will leave for tour of gardens. Luncheon will be served at the American Legion Club on Cross Lake. Visitors will be guests of Region 10. The Annual banquet will be at 7:30 in the Crystal Ball Room of the Washington-Youree.

Gardens featured on these tours will be those of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Caldwell, Mr. Ed Dickinson, Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Mathews, Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Gorton, Dr. and Mrs. Walter Colquitt.

Other gardens featuring irises will be open to visitors, and transportation will be provided for those desiring it. Some of these gardens will include those of Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Nesbitt, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Barret, Mr. and Mrs. James Briggs, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Edmonds, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sims.

The registration fee including transportation and all meals mentioned, excepting Saturday luncheon, will be \$16. Hotel reservations should be made before March 15. Write at once to Mrs. Walter Colquitt, Chairman, 487 Albany, Shreveport, La., stating accommodations desired. The Washington-Youree will be headquarters. Other nearby hotels and up-to-date tourist courts are available. A committee will meet all trains and planes if notification of arrival time is given.

Stops for the Motorist to and From Shreveport

DOROTHY ADAMS, (La.)

AIS members in Region 10 have been working for some time in an effort to make the 1951 Annual Meeting of the American Iris Society an outstanding one and we are looking forward to welcoming many iris lovers to the state of Louisiana. Many of you will no doubt come by automobile and will want to see as much of interest as possible, not only while you are here in Shreveport, but on your way to and from the meeting. No doubt you have already planned your route, so keep these spots in mind and try to see as many of them as possible. All are worthwhile. However, a word of caution; we are selfish and do not want you to linger too long on the way as we are anxious for you to arrive on time. We are lining up what we believe to be a very interesting schedule for you here in the Shreveport area.

For any of you who will pass near Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Mrs. Colin Whatoff of 221 S.E. 59th St. will be pleased to show you her gardens and also lists the gardens in that city which will be open to the public. These are the gardens containing the largest collection of bearded, native Louisiana and other types of iris in the city: Mr. H. A. Raboin, 2501 N.E. 23rd St.; Mrs. E. G. Sawyers, east of the city, Route 9, Box 113; Mrs. Earl F. Sanders, 1602 Birch St.; Mrs. J. E. (Flora) Zenor, 2232 N.W. 31st St.; Mrs. Russell Pryer, 1216 N.W. 33rd St.; Mr. S. A. Brewer, 110 N.W. 31st St.; Mr. Harry Thomas, 1210 Glenwood and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Plato, 2217 N.W. 14th St. Oklahoma City will be worth seeing with so many beautiful iris gardens to view.

In Little Rock, Arkansas, Mr. Frank Chowning will be glad to have visitors view his garden which consists entirely of natives of which many are seedlings which will bloom this year. The J. W. House garden situated five miles east of Little Rock consists of many of the better bearded varieties. Although it is not an iris garden solely it is well worth



Native Louisiana Irises circle pond in garden of Mrs. Lenora Mathews, Shreveport, La.

seeing. Bloom in Little Rock reaches its peak slightly later than in Shreveport.

Mrs. Rufus Garrett of El Dorado, Arkansas, has a wonderful planting of iris and invites you to feel free to visit her garden on your way to or from the Annual Meeting.

Our president Mr. Guy Rogers and his wife hope you will find time to visit with them in Wichita Falls, Texas. Their lovely garden containing one of the largest collections of bearded irises in the United States normally reaches its peak between the 20th and 25th of April. Early blooming varieties may be expected to come into bloom immediately after the Shreveport meeting.

In Dallas, Texas, the beautiful iris gardens are too numerous to mention here. However Mr. W. R. Cochran has consented to conduct an informal tour of some of them to any visitors. His garden at 3500 Beverly Drive will be open and is a formal planting of all the new and best tall bearded iris. This is a treat not to be missed. The tall

bearded season in Dallas usually coincides with the season in Shreveport.

In Ft. Worth, Texas, iris visitors are invited to visit the gardens of Mrs. W. K. Rose and Mrs. S. W. Ray.

Here in Louisiana we have many places that will be of interest to you and hope you will be able to see at least some of them while you are visiting us.

In Mansfield, Louisiana, "Hill Crest," home of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Hamner offers native iris in a natural setting. Mrs. Barney Goss has an old fashioned flower garden that will be a delightful treat. Mrs. J. L. Price features native iris and azaleas in her garden. All welcome you to Mansfield.

Miss Emylou Biedenhorn's formal garden in Monroe, Louisiana, is famous for design and contains a nice collection of both Louisiana native iris and bearded iris. In West Monroe, Louisiana, just across the river from Monroe, Mrs. W. R. Gates of 404 Linderman Ave., has over 300 varieties of iris growing including a bed of the American Iris Society's chosen hundred. Bagwell's Nursery and Garden featuring Japanese iris and daylilies will also be open to the public and is located in Monroe.

"Haphazard Plantation" at Ferriday, Louisiana, is owned by Mr. and Mrs. U. B. Evans and will prove to be unusual. It is really a large country yard surrounded by a moat and contains one of the largest collections of native plant material in the south. Here you will find not only rare plants but rare hospitality as well since the Evans are famous for both.

Near Ferriday you will be able to visit the many ante-bellum homes and gardens of Natchez, Mississippi. Miss Myra V. Smith of Natchez lists a few of these places and others may be seen by contacting her. The list includes "Ravenna," "Magnolia Vale," "Monteigne," "The Elms," "D'Evereux," "Arlington," "Hope Farm," "Greenleaves" and "Mistletoe." Louisiana iris may be seen growing at "Mistletoe."

In Vidalia, Louisiana, the local garden club is trying to plant the entire town in Louisiana native iris and it should be a beautiful sight even though it is not completed. Lucerna Plantation owned by Mr. and Mrs. Tam Winston is located at Vidalia and has many interesting native seedlings. They will welcome visitors.

Motorists from the North and East are invited to stop in Nashville on their way to or from Shreveport. From the tenth to the last of April is the season of spring flowers in Tennessee. The state is noted for its natural display of redbud and dogwood. Of especial interest is the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Howe, 1925 East Greenwood Ave., Nashville. The Howe garden is famous for the large planting of native shrubs, wild flowers and species iris. Members are invited to visit the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Geddes Douglas, Hill Rd., Brentwood,

Tenn. The Douglas garden contains a collection of daffodils and several hundred new pumila—tall bearded hybrids which should be in full bloom during this period. The Connell garden "Dauntless Hill" will be open to iris visitors and will feature a display of naturalized daffodils and blooming shrubs. For further information concerning a stopover in Nashville, contact The Secretary, American Iris Society, 444 Chestnut St., Nashville, Tenn.

Visitors planning to stop in Memphis, Tenn., should contact Mr. John Pierce, 2583 Jackson Blvd. The iris season in Memphis is from a week to ten days later than Shreveport but good early bloom may be expected. Gardens of note include the Pierce garden, Grandview Gardens, home of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Clark, and "Twin Trees," home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Reynolds, and others.

These are just a few of the places you might be able to visit on your way to and from Shreveport. For further information write to Mrs. James L. Adams, Publicity Chairman for A.I.S. 1951 Meeting, 113 East McCormick, Shreveport.

Places of Interest in South Louisiana

MARIE CAILLET, (Lafayette, La.)
Secretary, Society for Louisiana Irises

In view of inquiries which have been made concerning things to see in South Louisiana during the week prior to the Shreveport meeting, we have compiled the attached list of places of interest. The Louisiana hybrids are practically the extent of the irises grown south of Alexandria, with the exception of the wonderful new planting of tall bearded in "Shangri-La" at Orange, Texas, and a few scattered plantings of Dutch, Siberian, Japanese and Spurias.

We do extend a cordial invitation to all A.I.S. members to attend the annual show of the Society for Louisiana Irises which will be held April 7 and 8 in Lafayette, Louisiana. This time should be near the peak of the season for the Louisiana hybrids in South Louisiana.

Slidell, La., on Highway 190 east of Baton Rouge. "Tranquility Plantation," home of Mr. and Mrs. Temple Hargrove on Bayou Lacombe. An ante bellum mansion set in magnificent live oaks with many camellias and rare plants.

Lacombe, La., on Highway 190 east of Baton Rouge. "Bayou Gardens." Native dogwood, redbud, magnolias, massed azaleas and over four hundred varieties of camellias in formal and informal plantings. Open for a fee.

Covington, La. on Highway 190 east of Baton Rouge. The following homes and gardens do not feature iris but will welcome A.I.S. visitors at the time of the national meeting: The famous Katz Gardens, home of Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund Katz who raise rare camellias. "Odenheim," home of Mrs. Sigmund Odenheimer whose country lodge is landscaped along Bayou Falage. "Beechwood," home of Mr. and Mrs. Mayer Israel. Beautifully landscaped in natural woodland setting with camellias, dogwood and redbud in profusion. "Sandy Run Farm," home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Milling. An old remodeled farm house with lovely plantings of camellias, azaleas and dogwood in a woodland estate. (Will be closed on Tuesdays.) The plantation home in ante bellum style of Mrs. F. F. Chapman with its lovely informal garden. "Rosehue," home of Mr. and Mrs. Owen Heyer. A Spanish type farm house dating to 1810. Plantings of Louisiana irises.

Baton Rouge, La. (Highway 190). The home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gladney features naturalized plantings of native irises and native plants and flowers. Mr. Claude W. Davis, Delgado Drive, raises day-lilies, irises, roses and many other flowers. The Magnolia State Nursery has a fine collection of native irises. The Louisiana State University flower plots are an experimental garden for all types of flowers including Louisiana natives. Mrs. M. R. Hammond on Marion Drive features Louisiana iris and amaryllis.

Napoleonville, La., south of Baton Rouge. For those interested in seeing the historic plantations along Bayou Lafourche, Miss Elmina Thibaut and Mrs. W. W. Pugh will be glad to give information and directions. South of Napoleonville near Thibodaux is the private swamp of Louisiana natives belonging to Mrs. Rene Kraemer of Kraemer, La., where collecting may be done for a small fee. Kraemer's Yellow and Kraemer's Tan were collected here.

New Iberia, La., on Highway 90 east of Lafayette. Many historic homes and famous oaks, including "Shadows on the Teche" and the famous Gebert Oak in front of the Lee Gebert home on Highway 90. St. Martinville, center of the Everglade country is just out of New Iberia. "Jungle Gardens," between New Iberia and Abbeville has one of the best collections of ornamental plant materials in the deep south. Beautifully landscaped hills rising out of the marsh with huge moss covered oaks, rare camellias and massed plantings of azaleas. Open for a fee.

Abbeville, La., south of Lafayette on Highway 187. For information and guide maps showing the swamps of native irises, contact the Abbeville Chamber of Commerce or Mr. W. B. MacMillan. "House of Mac," the commercial garden of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. MacMillan features Louisiana iris and daylilies.

Lafayette, La., on Highway 90. Home of the Society for Louisiana Irises and its official test garden on the grounds of Southwestern Louisiana Institute and the Louisiana Iris display garden in Cypress Lake on the main campus. Contact any A.I.S. member in the city for information. Mrs. Tom Bostic's garden on Bayou Vermilion, just off Highway 90 East, features azaleas and Louisiana natives. Louisiana Iris Gardens, the commercial garden of Mr. Ira S. Nelson is east of Lafayette on Hwy. 90 near Broussard, La. Eddie's Iris Garden, the commercial garden of Mrs. E. P. Arceneaux is just off Hwy. 187 north of Lafayette.

Creole, La., south of Highway 90 near Lake Charles, La. The Cameron swamps with their fields of native iris are a sight worth seeing. Mr. G. W. Holleyman or William E. Levingston in Lake Charles may be contacted for information.

Lake Charles, La., on Highway 90 between Houston, Texas and New Orleans, La. Gardens featuring Louisiana natives are those of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Holleyman and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Levingston on Hwy. 90 West; Mrs. J. A. Geary in the city proper; Mrs. John J. Doyle and Mrs. George A. Courtney on Prien Lake; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Duplechain, whose collection of the large virginicas in their bog garden is the best in the state. The extensive gardens of Mrs. Matilda Gray, Mrs. W. E. Shaddock and W. T. Burton on Shell Beach Drive (Hwy. 90 West) feature camellias and azaleas. Other gardens of interest that will be open to visitors are those of Dr. Charles Hatchette, Dr. Stakley Hatchette, Mrs. Charles S. Fay, Mrs. Emma Michie, Ed. H. Tausig, Terrell Woosley, Elmer E. Shutts, Charles Snead, A. O. King, G. M. Martin, H. A. Zinch and Fred Breucher. The Association of Commerce on the corner of Hodges and Broad Streets (Hwy. 90) will furnish to visitors maps on which these gardens have been marked.

Orange, Texas, on Highway 90 just West of Lake Charles, La. The 200 acre garden of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lutch Stark called "Shangri-La" features native pine groves, cypress covered lakes, rare old camellias, miles of azalea bordered drives and informal plantings of dogwood, redbud and other flowering shrubs. "Shangri-La" has one of the finest collections of Louisiana irises and a new planting of tall bearded. It will be open to A.I.S. members in the afternoons of the week before and following the Shreveport meeting.

Bearded Irises in Shreveport

MRS. WALTER COLQUITT, (La.)

Bearded irises have always been one of the dominating perennials in the flower borders of Shreveport gardens. It is doubtful that there is a private collection of named varieties anywhere that surpasses that of Mr. Ed Dickinson, whose garden features irises and roses. The newest introductions always have an opportunity to prove their worth and certainly they have the best in diet and growing conditions. Few of them fail to respond, but for some reason those with oncocyclis in their breeding do not stay with us long. Some experimenting with culture in general is in progress and perhaps the reason is in sight. Zwanenburg, Doxa and Balroudour have performed well in this area. Mr. Dickinson has never grown seedlings of his own, so all share alike. He has never become interested outside the bearded kinds so his planting is always a Mecca for tall bearded iris enthusiasts. There are many local gardens featuring many sorts of irises but no other is confined to bearded exclusively.

With the prospect of many visitors in 1951 from all parts of the country, it has been the aim of every garden owner to show the best in bearded and beardless. Since the Louisianas are our own, great care has been made to show also the newest in the bearded irises. Some of these were purchased outright but many of the yet unIntroduced varieties are here as guests, and what a gathering of notables! We hope to share this wonderful display with each of you.

To describe those that performed this past season would take pages, as well as exhaust the adjectives in any vocabulary. In general their performance as one-year plants was most encouraging and we look forward to the REAL show in April 1951. The following comments will serve both as a measure of our 1950 season, and as a guide to what you may expect in 1951.

Solveg (Johnson-Ruth)—a lovely lemon yellow.

Heart's Desire (Wills-J.)—rosy-red of nice form, pleasing color.

Centurion (Wills-J.)—a rich bronze, fine form and wonderful substance.

Belle Meade (Wills-J.)—attractive blue plicata.

Far Hills (Wills-J.)—a large orchid pink self, that promises to do well for us.

Tournament (Wills-J.)—a rosy-purple of good form, with great garden value.

Virgil (Wills-J.)—a good white with a long blooming habit.

Well Content (Wills-J.)—a salmon-rose blend, deeper and redder than Prairie Sunset.

- Devoir (Wills-J.)—deep rose pink with a yellow beard.
- Western Star (Wills-J.)—a bright copper-rose blend, slightly bicolor.
- Blue Serene (Wills-J.)—a light blue self, good form and color.
- Pagan Sunset (Douglas-G.)—a rich blend, very beautiful.
- Black Ruby (Dolman)—Velvety black-red, clean hafts and a beauty.
- Illinois (Hall-D.)—large creamy yellow, fine texture.
- Melody Lane (Hall-D.)—beautiful golden apricot, from two flamingo seedlings.
- Pink Sensation (Hall-D.)—beautiful light pink, an early bloomer and sporting an orange-red beard.
- Pretty Quadroon (Kleinsorge)—wonderful form and a good garden iris with contrasting brown beard on the lighter ground.
- Sky Ranger (Hall-D.)—tall, medium blue with ruffled form and a real “stand out” in the border.
- Sunset Blaze (Kleinsorge)—a beautiful blend that attracts attention from all who see it. Winner of the President’s Cup in 1949.
- Twilight Sky (Fay)—one of the best pinks.
- Aucocisco (Tobie)—almost an amoena with lovely color contrast.
- Carousel (Douglas-G.)—a very outstanding blend of magenta, violet and gold that increases well and gives a wonderful display in the border.
- Sarah Goodloe (Douglas-G.)—a self of almost black-maroon. Outstanding form and a good garden iris. A beauty.
- Star Shine (Wills-J.)—a beautiful combination of cream, white and a blush of blue. Fine substance and especially good form.
- Bright Song (Schroeder)—a bright pink flower with ruffled flowers of good form. Well branched and increases well.
- Cahokia (Faught)—a fine blue with good form.
- Charlie Gersdorff (Lapham)—an outstanding red with a bright beard, standards blended yellow.
- Confetti (Schreiner)—a pink plicata, very attractive.
- Envoy (DeForest)—a smooth dark red-purple iris with great appeal.
- Honolulu Belle (Becherer)—a blue bicolor that is very beautiful.
- Mary Ellen (McKee)—a brilliant red bicolor with large flowers.
- Mattie Gates (Sass)—most outstanding in the yellow class with the white ground around the beard.
- Morning Melody (Becherer)—beautiful soft orchid-lavender.
- Celestar (Larsen)—unusual white with a flush of violet on the falls, novel.
- Color Sergeant (Hall-H. F.)—a rich deep red with good form.
- White Parchment (Hall-H. F.)—well named, blooming later than most whites.
- Penn Charter (Hall-H.F.)—a ruffled yellow with good form and heavy substance.
- Indian Red (Hall-H.F.)—a coppery-red with a gold beard. Well

branched with heavy substance and good texture.

Happy Valley (Miess)—large amethyst self with an intense orange-yellow beard, striking color contrast.

Lake Tenaya (Miess)—another good blue with exceptional garden value. The foliage and branching are superior.

Spring Romance (Miess)—a cream-white which impresses all who see it. Large flowered and well placed on the stem.

These are but a few of the finest introductions, to date, that may be seen in the Shreveport gardens. All of the Award of Merit irises, all of the "100 Best," and many of the H.C.'s will be seen.

* * * * *

MRS. D. R. DICKINSON, (La.)

It was a real treat to see the bearded irises in established clumps as they bloomed in Mr. Ed Dickinson's garden this year. The following particularly impressed me:

Lilac Lane—an exquisite pink toned self with light yellow beard. The stalks are strong and well branched.

Pink Formal—lovely deep pink with a tangerine beard, large and tall. Well grown here.

Cherie—very outstanding. Large ruffled flamingo pink with tangerine beard. "Breath taking" in beauty.

Flora Dora—also a lovely flamingo pink, running a close second to Cherie.

Radiation—orchid pink with tangerine beard. Very sturdy plant.

Ola Kala—rich, brilliant yellow. First year it has come up to expectation.

Cloud Castle—an exquisite white with wisteria cast. Always a large ruffled flower. Plant floriferous.

Color Carnival—prolific bloomer; color combination unusual.

Golden Ruffles—lovely large ruffled flowers.

Arcadia Buttercup—exquisite, golden color, sturdy, well branched stalks. Flowers lasted several days and it bloomed through the entire season.

Zantha—a great favorite here. Very large deep yellow flowers with good substance.

Bel Air—outstanding, large, ruffled, clear blue on tall, well branched stems.

Buckthorn Brown—a lovely two-toned brown flower. It bloomed in the winter and again in the spring. Has large well formed flowers, and exquisite color.



Arrangement of Louisiana natives

Photo by Calvin Blue.

We are most fortunate in having many guest irises from hybridizers over the country. To mention a few, Mr. Lapham has sent Paradise Pink and several numbered seedlings. There is Blue Parakeet from Mr. Waters; Syllabub from Geddes Douglas; Fuschia, Ballerina, Sunray, Dolly Varden, Heather Rose and Hi-Time from Mr. Dave Hall.

Dr. Kleinsorge has contributed Alline Rogers, Prospector, Thotmes III. Mr. Muhlestein will be represented by a host of fine varieties such as Apricot Glory, Lady Albright, Party Dress, Sky Tint and others.

Mrs. Jean Stevens of New Zealand has sent many of her new introductions including King's Jester and Royal Sovereign.

There will be new things from DeForest, Schreiner, Milliken, Salbach, Wilbur Weed, Carl Taylor, Thomas Manley, Dr. Clevenger, Agnes Whiting, Chet Tompkins and many others. Shreveport is close to the Southern limit of tall bearded culture and we are very proud to be able to offer so many fine new varieties for the enjoyment of our guests in 1951.

Louisiana Native Types

Since the Annual Meeting of the American Iris Society will be held in Shreveport, Louisiana in 1951, any information concerning Louisiana irises has added interest. To further acquaint iris enthusiasts with these native iris, the Bulletin quotes from a very fine booklet "Louisiana Native Iris." This pamphlet is a publication of the Louisiana State Extension Service and was edited by Mr. Joe G. Richard, Assistant Director and State Agent, Agriculture Extension Service, Louisiana State University and Louisiana Agricultural and Mechanical College.

Distribution and Description

Native irises of various types are widely distributed in Louisiana but are more numerous in the Gulf Coast area.

"The Iris Center of the Universe" was the phrase coined by the late Dr. John K. Small, authority on plant life, to describe the rich, wild iris fields of South Louisiana. Dr. Small, as curator of the New York Botanical Gardens, was one of the first to describe these fields and to call attention to their magnitude, to the great variety of the flowers, and to the unusual size of the plants.

Under best growing conditions in their native habitat, some flower stalks over six feet tall have been found, and some as low as four inches. This fascinating and popular wild flower ranges in color variations from white through all the lavenders, blues, and violet to deepest purple. There are also many color values of pink, rose, red, bronze, yellow, bitone, bicolor, and even plicata.

The vicinities of New Orleans, Thibodaux, Houma, Morgan City, Prairieville and Abbeville are melting pots of rainbow colors, the natural hybrids. These are the hybrids resulting from natural crosses of two or more of the following three types: tall blue (*Giganticaerulea*), rust-red (*Fulva*), and dwarf blue (*Foliosa*).

The Abbeville fields are located near a converging point of several streams where the low blooming (*Foliosa*), the medium-size rust-red (*Fulva*), and the tall blooming blues (*Giganticaerulea*) meet. The resulting natural hybrids are masses of rainbow colors. The area is referred to locally by iris collectors as the "Iris Heaven."

Types of Native Irises

In discussing types of native irises, the author proposes to give only a general description of five types found in Louisiana. He makes no attempt at botanical classification. Much research work needs to be done by botanists and geneticists on systematic classification of native irises.



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Richard hold winning seedling and trophy at 1949 Iris Show, Society for Louisiana Irises, Lafayette, La. Photo by Calvin Blue.

Following is a brief description of five groupings of types found in Louisiana:

1. Rust-red (Fulva)—Small flowers with many blooms of rust-red shades on erect stem about 30 inches in height. Both petals and sepals droop and have no signal patch. It occurs in color values of crimson,

pink, and even clear yellow. It grows abundantly in the lowlands of Mississippi and Red River valleys, being more numerous and larger in size near the Gulf Coast. This iris was first described in 1812. It occurs naturally as far north as Missouri and Ohio.

2. Abbeville Types—The Abbeville Red or “Super” Fulva is found in southwest Louisiana near Abbeville. These giant reds are in a class all their own. The color range is from red to yellow and brown to deep purple. The wide overlapping petals and sepals are sometimes marked with a long crest or signal patch. Sometimes they are void of any signal markings. Most blooms have a wonderful substance and may be of crepe-like texture or a velvety sheen. The style arms are short. The foliage is broader and the rhizomes are larger than the regular fulva.

3. Dwarf (Foliosa) (Including Flexicaulis, Brevipes, and Mississippensis)—Medium size flower of much substance with a color range from blue shades to white. Blooms may occur on zig-zag or fairly straight stems low in the foliage. Plants and rhizomes are much smaller than other forms. Also, it blooms later and usually grows in shadier places than others. It is found growing naturally in the prairie and bluff areas of Louisiana. These occur from Vermilion Parish north to West Carroll Parish, and east of the Mississippi River from Ascension to West Feliciana Parishes.

4. Giant blues (Giganticaerulea)—Large, recurving flower parts ranging in color from blue and purple to white. Flowers with vertical petals (standards) and horizontal sepals (falls) are borne at different levels on very tall, erect stalks. These giant blues are found along the Gulf Coast of Louisiana on the edges of bays fed by fresh water and bordering on salt water marshes.

5. Pine Flat Types (Virginica, including Shrevei and Carolina)—Medium size flowers ranging in color from deep blue to white with heavily veined fragrant blossoms on lateral branching slender stems. The dark green foliage has a decided midrib. This characteristic is not found in any other Louisiana native iris. It is not known to cross pollinize with other forms of Louisiana native irises. Natural habitats are in low pine flat areas of southeast and western Louisiana from Calcasieu to Caddo Parish. East of the Mississippi River it occurs abundantly north of Lake Pontchartrain and Maurepas. The soils in these areas are more acid than the alluvial and bluff areas where other Louisiana irises grow naturally.

Horticultural Varieties and Hybrids

Hybrids found in the wild, as well as those produced in the garden by hybridizers, number into the thousands. As these hybrids make good, they may be given a variety name. Many of the named hybrids have been registered and are recorded with the American Iris Society.

ONCOCYCLUS, REGELIA AND REGELIO-CYCLUS IRISES*

LAWRENCE NEEL, England.

These three groups of Irises, containing some of the most colorful of all Iris species, are not as commonly seen as they deserve to be and in very few gardens does one ever come across a plant. A considerable amount has been written about the difficulty in growing them, and though this is a well deserved comment regarding oncocyclus, it should not apply to the other two. When they do flower, and the latter two flower freely, I feel that any additional attention given is more than repaid by the result, which can be really magnificent.

Oncocyclus and Regelias are desert plants, and are found in areas of Palestine, Syria, the Lebanon and through to the foothills of the Caucasus Mountains. Consequently, they have a short, quick growing season when there is enough moisture to support them, but for about three quarters of the year they are dormant, being thoroughly baked by Middle East sun. The Regelia Irises have proved far hardier and easier of cultivation than have the Oncocyclus and the Regelio-cyclus (which are hybrids between the two and seem to have acquired the vigour of the Regelias and the exotic colourings of the Oncocyclus, and therefore are quite easy to grow).

Oncocyclus Iris

There are a number of varieties of these, many of which are almost unknown in present day cultivation. That most commonly seen is *Iris Susiana*, sometimes called the Mourning Iris. Others are *Lortei* (pinkish), *Bismarckiana* (blackish purple on cream ground), *Gatesii* (grey), *Atrofusca* (dark brown with yellow blotch), *Atropurpurea* (blackish brown), *Barnumae* (vinous red self) and *Paradoxa* (rather small flowered, standards dark blue purple on white ground and falls purplish black on pinkish ground). *I. susiana* has never been found in its wild state, but some authorities believe the plant was brought to Europe by the Crusaders, and Dykes reports that in certain areas of Southern France and North Italy it is grown extensively as a cut flower.

All the various species of Oncocyclus appear to grow naturally in a heavy reddish clay soil containing much lime, which in the long dry season must take on the consistency of a good brick. Such soil in this country would be far too wet and therefore to grow these Iris we must prepare our beds specially.

Really good drainage is ALL important and I should advocate making

*Reprinted from Newsletter No. 22, The Kent Group (England).

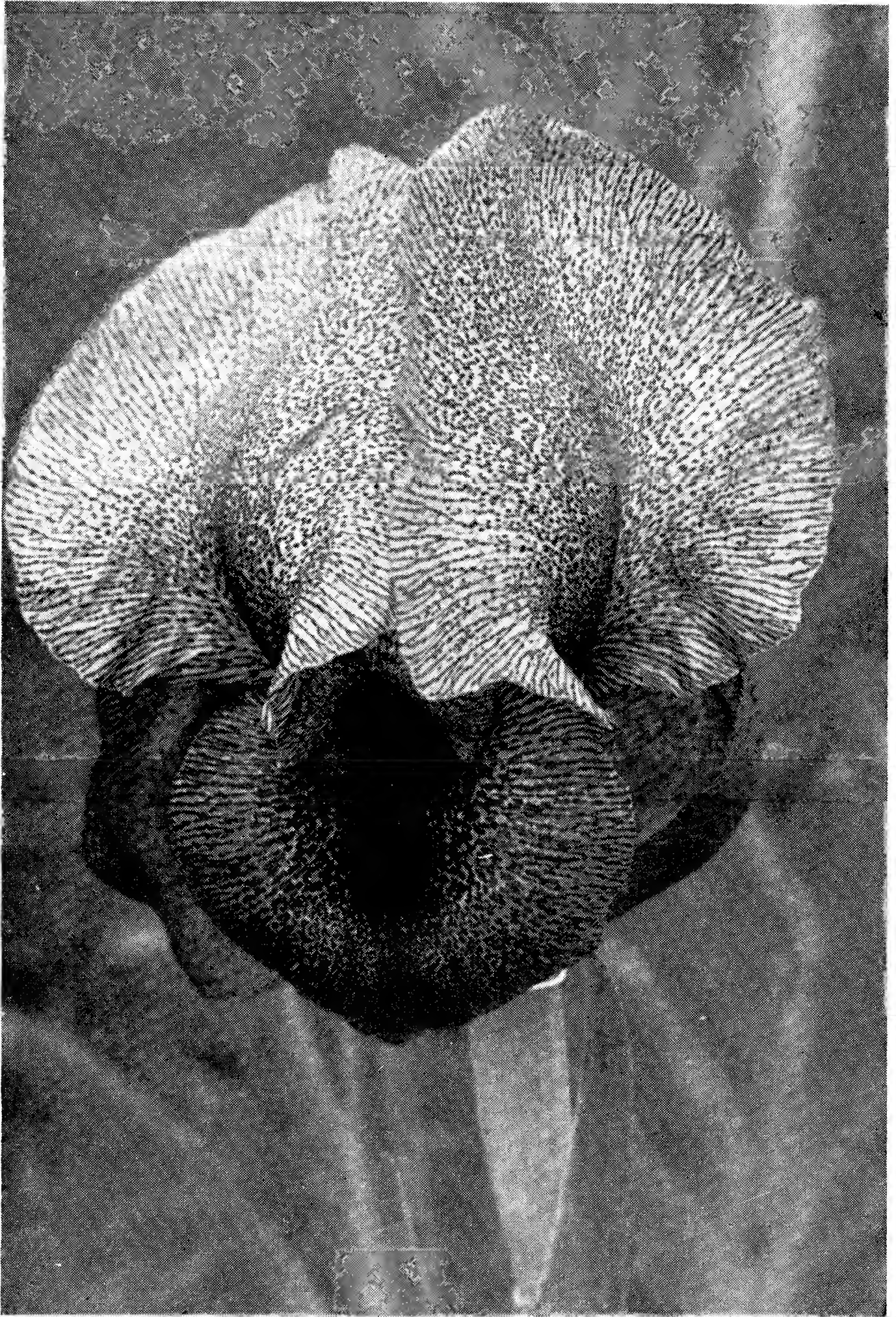
raised beds about 1 ft. above normal ground level, each bed being 2 ft. wide so as to take a cloche. Drainage can be clinker, stones, shingle, etc. and the soil above should be rich with a high proportion of mortar rubble mixed in. *Oncocyclus* will start to make growth early in the autumn and because of our damp winters this is liable to rot with consequent damage to the rhizome. I would advocate covering the raised bed with cloches from mid-June until the end of February or even mid-March if the weather is very cold and damp, and as the cloche just covers the width of the bed and so throws off any rain water, it should be possible to keep the bed quite dry during that period. Once the cloches are removed, give the bed a good watering and growth will very soon commence. Other methods of cultivation are in a cold greenhouse, or in a frame, or even in the lee of a thick hedge. I feel one can only find the best method for one's own particular soil and locality by a process of trial and error, but do remember that drainage is the main essential; very firm planting is necessary; and it is important to retard growth until as late in the winter as is possible. Thorough ripening of the rhizomes during the summer is all important, and if cloches etc. are not available, dig up the plants about the first week in July (not later than the 14th), dry them off well and store them, replanting about the end of October.

All *Oncocyclus* flowers are distinguished by the large, usually dark, signal patch on the falls. It is worth all this trouble just to get one good bloom, for they are very large and most beautiful.

Regelia Irises

The cultivation of these is somewhat similar to that for *Oncocyclus*, but the *Regelias* are much hardier, easier to grow and do not generally start to make growth until the New Year. Consequently, they can be de-cloched much earlier without coming to harm. I have grown various varieties very successfully in a hot, dry border against the south side of the house, raised about 9" over drive level in front. The soil is light, and the rhizomes were planted in a mixture of mortar rubble, limestone chippings, ordinary soil and a handful of bonemeal beneath each. They seem to like it for they have increased very rapidly and this spring flowered profusely. The bed was covered with cloches from the end of June last year until just after Christmas, and due to this aspect the roots received a thorough baking last summer.

The flowers are smaller than *Oncocyclus*, are taller and where the *Oncocyclus* produces only one flower per stem, the *Regelia* is always double budded. The best known is perhaps *I. hoogiana* which Dykes describes as "a really magnificent Iris." It is, and is a worthy acquisition for any garden. The flower is pale blue in colour, borne on stems 18" to 24" in height. There is a variety *Hoogiana Purpurea*, and also



I. susiana, an oncocyclus species, has large blossoms, usually but one to the stalk.

Photo by Corliss.

what is obviously a hybrid called *I. hoogiana* Bronze Beauty (I should say from a cross *Hoogiana* X *Stolonifera*). All are good and easy growers, and Bronze Beauty appears to be very floriferous. Other varieties are *I. korolkowi* which has many colour variations, the most common being brownish purple on a cream ground; this variety, more than any other, was used by Messrs. Van Tubergen in producing the remarkable race of *Regelio-cyclus* crosses for which they are so well known. *I. stolonifera* is light brown purple shot in the middle of the standards and falls with bright blue.

Regelio-cyclus Iris

The grand hybrids are the result of crosses between *Oncocyclus* and *Regelia* irises made in Holland by the firm of Van Tubergen. They are easier to grow than either parent and combine the vigour of the *Regelias* with the exotic colouring of the *Oncocyclus*. Cultivation is the same as for the *Regelias*, and I might say we grew them quite successfully on Vancouver Island (whose climate is like that of Surrey in a hot summer) on a patch of very gravelly soil in the open, with no protection whatsoever.

I should describe the crosses as falling into three main categories:

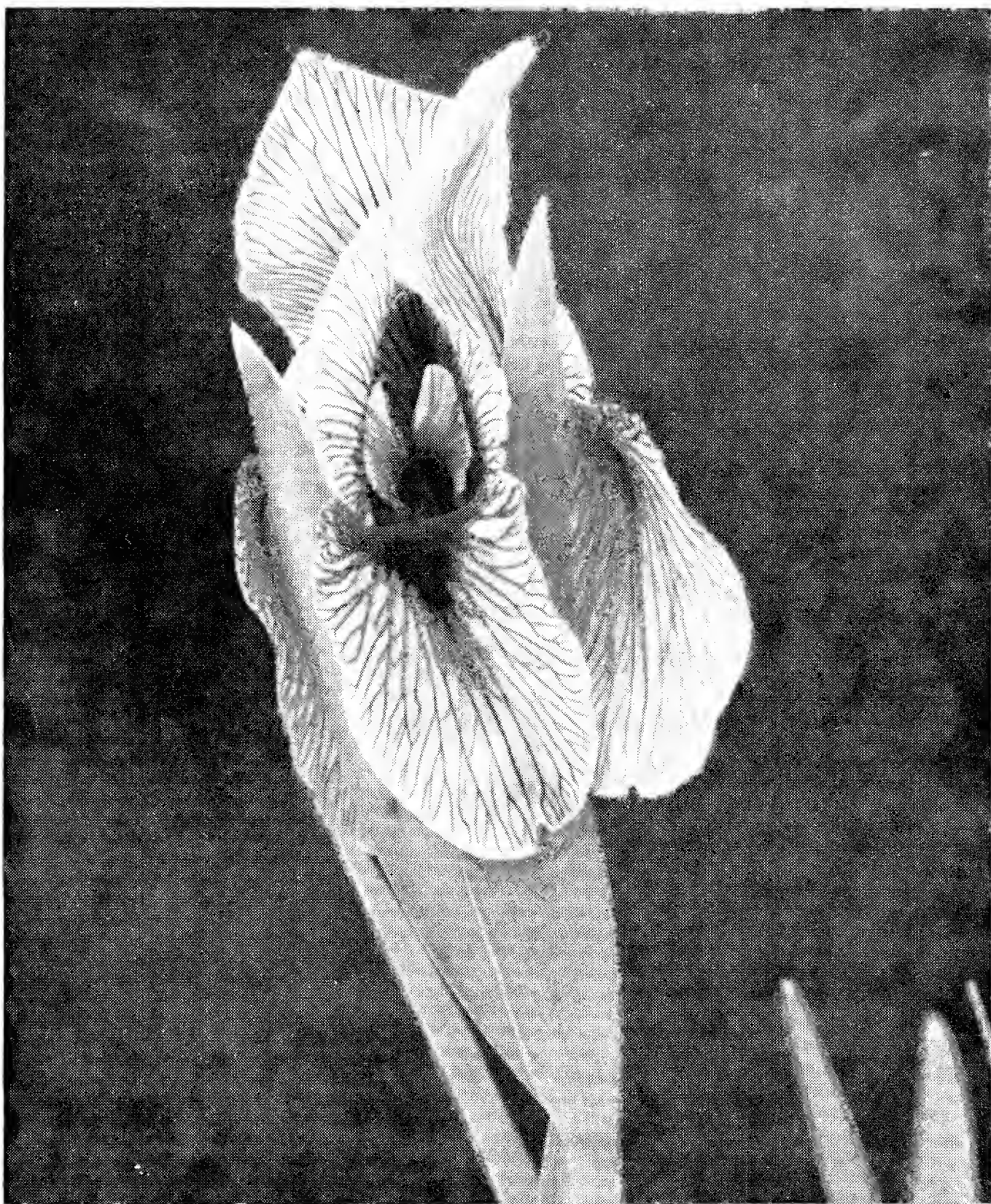
(1) Those with rather short, stubby, very flared falls, where the black signal patch takes up most of the fall and which are from *I. paradoxa* parentage. Varieties *Camilla* and *Sirona* are examples.

(2) Those with rather elongated, narrow flowers, red in colour with vivid blue beards, of which *Lucia* and *Vulcanus* (*Iberica* X *Pallida*) are good examples.

(3) That form which includes such varieties as *Artemis*, *Teucros*, *Asporina*, *Homerus* and *Ulyssus*, which I consider the most pleasing for the flowers are so perfectly shaped with large rounded standards and falls, with magnificent veining and signal patch on each fall. Colours range from brown on grey background to a real pinkish red colour, such as *Ulyssus*. They are mostly the result of crosses of the different forms of *Korolkowi* with an *Oncocyclus Barnumae Mariae*, which is a reddish self. They grow easily and well and bloom profusely; second year clumps gave from 8 to 10 blooms per plant this spring.

Regelias and *Regelio-cyclus* set seed readily. You will be fascinated by the bright emerald green stamens when you are hybridizing. I have never grown seed but have been told that the patience of Job is necessary as up to 10 years can be taken in germination.

There is a new race known as *Oncobreds*, raised by crossing *Oncocyclus* with tall bearded *Germanica* varieties, whose production has been mainly from the skilled hands of such hybridists as Prof. Mitchell, Wm. Mohr, C. G. White, etc. Strangely enough the first real *Oncobred* was *Zwanenburg*, raised as far back as 1912 by Denis in France, but



Species korolkowi, a Regelia, shows typical veining and large signal.

Photo by Corliss.

so far as I know he raised no others, and twenty years had to go by until serious hybridizing was again taken up in the U.S.A. However, this is another chapter in the long story of iris hybridization.

I have tried to give you a little information on some of the most lovely of all irises, whose discovery and introduction into garden use was so largely the work of that great Dutch firm, C. G. Van Tubergen Ltd. It was their travellers, roaming the Middle East in search of Tulip varieties, who sent back so many *Oncocyclus* and *Hoogiana*, perhaps their finest introduction.

Basic Work with the Mohr Hybrids

JOHN J. OHL, (Kansas)

In 1925 an iris was named by Prof. Sydney B. Mitchell in honor of the man who accomplished the difficult feat of producing it. William Mohr had succeeded in crossing the species *I. gatesii* with the pogon iris *Parisiana*, an old *plicata* from the French breeder Vilmorin. This new hybrid was destined to produce a new race of garden varieties. *Iris gatesii*, its oncocyclus parent, is a native of Palestine. The unusual coloring of the oncocyclus irises is due to the considerable veining and dotting of a deeper color on light backgrounds and the blooms are usually of full rounded form. Some irises of the species comprising this group have a deep blotch or signal around and just below the beard, but *gatesii* lacks this characteristic and William Mohr, its offspring, also lacks it.

There are two distinct types in the oncocyclus group. One is represented by *I. gatesii*, *I. lortetii* and *I. susiana*, all very large in size. Other members of the group are smaller but equally beautiful and odd in coloring. The only one of this latter group to be considered in this article is *I. iberica*, but one may safely predict that others will enter the Mohr family within a very few years as C. G. White's new oncobred, Joppa Parrot, gradually is making its way into the picture.

One may also divide the pogons or tall bearded irises into two types; the "flags" of grandmother's garden, which were the smaller sorts with 24 chromosomes (diploids) and the large, tall, well-branched sorts of today which usually have 48 chromosomes (tetraploids). Crossing these two types is rather difficult and, when one does succeed, the seeds are usually few in number, weak and shrivelled.

The crossing of oncocyclus species with either the diploid (24 chromosomes) or tetraploid (48 chromosomes) pogons is naturally difficult. The oncos have a chromosome count of twenty. But crosses have been accomplished with both groups of the tall bearded irises, the diploid and tetraploid pogons.

Parisiana is a diploid having a chromosome count of 24. This crossed with *gatesii* produced the remarkable William Mohr, a true hybrid with a chromosome count of 22. It has never been known to bear pollen.

Sterility Impasse Overcome

C. G. Van Tubergen introduced Ib-Mac (*iberica* X *Macrantha*) in 1910, an iris which was destined to figure strongly in the later William Mohr hybrids. I have no record of Ib-Mac's chromosome count, but it is possibly a tetraploid or very nearly so, and it has very fertile pollen.

Just what change took place in William Mohr is not known, but

for the first ten years of its existence it appeared to be quite sterile, then, dramatically, two seedlings from it made their debut in 1935. C. G. White named Mohrson (William Mohr X seedling) and Prof. Stafford Jory named Grace Mohr (William Mohr X tall bearded). Grace Mohr remains probably the largest of the race to date. These two unusual irises aroused much interest, and William Mohr became more and more widely used as a seed parent. Dr. Kleinsorge introduced Ormohr (William Mohr X Anakim) in 1937, a hybrid similar to Grace Mohr. By 1940 Frank Reinelt had Soquel from William Mohr X Sunol, and while Sunol is distinctly different from Anakim in color Soquel still carried the William Mohr coloring.

Up to this point every William Mohr hybrid had the distinctive coloring of its seed parent, but the year Frank Reinelt introduced Soquel he also introduced Capitola (William Mohr X Ib-Mac) a half-onco that brought Van Tubergen's three-decades-old hybrid into the picture. It has fertile pollen and it was destined to bring about the first good color break in this line of breeding.

Carl Salbach named Miss Muffet in 1940. It came from a large yellow seedling from Dauntless X W. R. Dykes crossed with a seedling from the same cross that produced Capitola. Miss Muffet is quite attractive early in the season, but it suffers upon the arrival of hot weather. It is an odd, dull greenish-yellow and brown bicolor.

Another Color "Break"

In 1942 another new color in the Mohr family made its appearance with Dr. Loomis' Elmohr, one that takes on a red influence from the cross William Mohr X Loomis H22, the latter a red seedling, which transmitted much of its character to its famous offspring.

Also by 1942 Kleinsorge had obtained seedlings from Ormohr and he named Ormaco, which still shows a good bit of onco influence though only 1/8 onco. This iris added some brown blending with the Ormohr color from the Aztec Copper pollen parent. Zebulon, another Ormohr seedling, came out about this same time, as an onco which shows no onco traits.

Robert Schreiner had Suez ready in 1943. A little darker than Grace Mohr in color, and with a slight suggestion of plicata (it came from William Mohr X Madame Louis Aureau). It is said to have fertile pollen and to be even self fertile. Still another new color note came with Illusion (Ormohr X Red Cross), a lilac pink of good form and late blooming habit.

The procession continued with Wm. Miller's Barrimohr (William Mohr X Adobe), a fine large mulberry purple, introduced in 1944. This same year saw another trio of William Mohr hybrids. Tharp introduced My Day (William Mohr X Los Angeles) a fine large

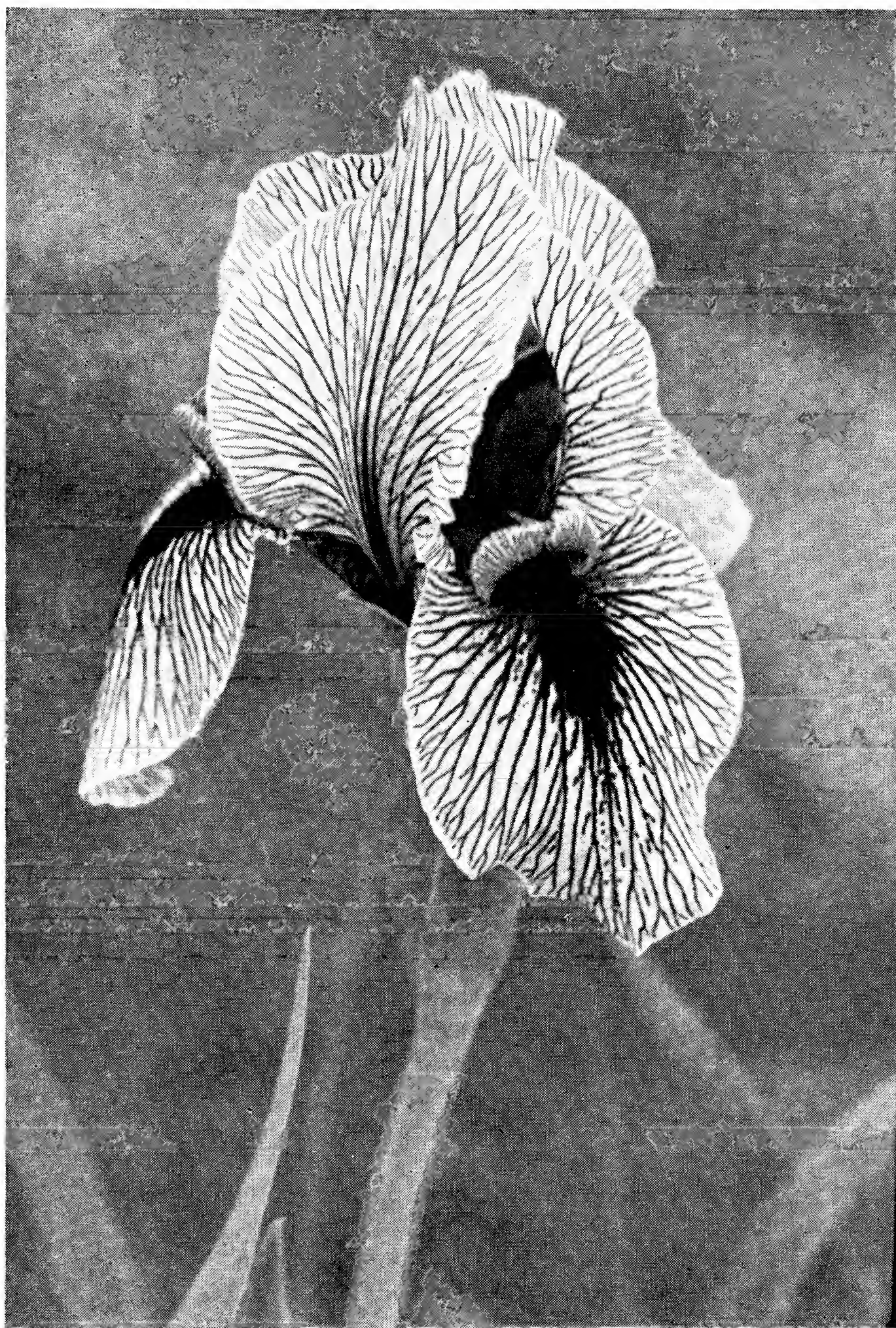
lavender. Thomas contributed N. J. Thomas, whose parentage is given as William Mohr X El Capitan, but later information points to Cardinal as the pollen parent which seems reasonable since it has some velvety texture in its flaring falls. The spotlight on the 1944 introductions focused strongly on Carl Salbach's Lady Mohr ((Alta California X King Midas) X Capitola)), a real triumph in hybridizing. Its unique color is more akin to that of the oncocyclis group, and here for the first time, the William Mohr characteristics are subdued while still present. This and Miss Muffet are both color breaks and both have as their pollen parent William Mohr X Ib-Mac.

Still in 1944 Chet Tompkins introduced Intermezzo, an iris which has the appearance of being straight pogon, but it has William Mohr in its background being from Tompkins 4E38, which is (William Mohr X Mussolini), by (Shining Waters X Far West). That this sort of hybrid has value in further breeding is demonstrated by Capistrano (Tompkins 1947) which is from (4E38 X Intermezzo) and which is said to show the onco influence to a considerable extent. Its foliage and rhizome are typically onco. Two others of Chet Tompkin's Mohr hybrids are Sonatine (1946) from ((Jean Cayeux X Ormohr) X Aztec Copper) and Moonblossom (1946) from 4E38 X Vishea. Neither of these show onco influence.

The 1948 Parade

New things are in the offing by the dozens. William Mohr and its hybrids are being used for breeding to a greater extent and by more breeders than ever before. Among these breeders is Stafford Jory who until recently has released none since 1935, but has been working quietly and obtaining results. He has also found Ormohr to be a fertile pollen parent. Reports from him are encouraging, though there have been lots of disappointments along the way, mostly because the hybrids are sterile as seed bearers and more so as pollen parents. Lately he has obtained some brown colors out of ((Grace Mohr X——) X Capitola). Two of his 1948 releases, introduced by Carl Salbach, are Morning Blue (Purissima X Capitola) which is described as having large, clear light chicory blue standards with some veining and with falls a little deeper blue, big and rounded, of semi-flaring carriage. The other is Blue Elegance (Purissima X Capitola) which has large rounded standards of light bluish violet, and big, rounded semi-flaring falls of a somewhat deeper color. Both of these are tall (36 to 38 inches), good growers, and free bloomers.

Another 1948 introduction was Anita Catherine (Stanley Clarke) out of Purissima X Mohrson, a large, very pale light blue self, somewhat lighter than Helen McGregor in color. It has no pollen. This and C. J. Paul's Altamohr were introduced by Tell Muhlestein. Altamohr



Variety Parthenope (Van Tubergen, 1911) is an onco-regelia hybrid. Note dark signal from which typical Regelia veining emanates.

Photo by Corliss.

(William Mohr X Alta California) has a tall stem with flaring large flowers a bit more orchid pink than Ormohr. Joppa Parrot (C. G. White) is not a Mohr but an oncobred and it is a remarkable medley of colors which intrigues many people who see it, and in California it is a very strong grower and a good pollen parent. Tom Craig agrees with this view of it and he states that Prof. Jory has a similar one from the Mohr line.

What of the Future?

Walter Marx has several in the offing, including Blumohr (William Mohr X Orloff), a large very fine and very blue self. He has several unnamed seedlings. One, Elmohr X Orloff, is large, reddish-brown, heavily crimped in both standards and falls. Suez X Orloff gave him a yellow ground plicata of the sharpest imaginable contrasts, and Suez X a yellow plicata produced a dainty pink plicata. These Suez seedlings show no onco influence, but he is now using their pollen for back-crossing on the Mohrs. Snoqualmie X Capitola gave him a nice rosy lilac with a dark signal patch, and another of light, pearly-grey coloring. Still another is quite like Lady Mohr, but more rounded in form. Marx's only introduction to date of the William Mohr line is Colossal. It comes from William Mohr X El Capitan and has a huge bloom with weak standards. Its color is similar to Ormohr. Two seedlings from William Mohr X Sacramento were much the same color and all of these are tall. He has many other seedlings from crosses involving Ormohr, Mohrson, Suez, Capitola, Lady Mohr, Orloff, Royal Scot, Golden Hind, Lucky Star and several others. We can look for interesting things to come from these.

Fred DeForest has done some interesting work with the Mohrs and he has some nice seedlings from Ormohr X Casa Morena, Ormohr X Silver Susie, Elmohr X Casa Morena and several others. The only one which I have seen is from Ormohr X Silver Susie, a seedling which is several shades lighter than Ormohr and a little smaller.

Still in the Pacific Northwest, we find a new name among the Mohr breeders, Gordon Plough of Wenatchee, who has registered Laurel Hill (William Mohr X (Esplendido X Bruno)) a somewhat veined, very flaring lavender-pink on short, but branched stems. Plough has a seedling from Grace Mohr X Arctic and he has seed from Ormohr, Grace Mohr, Elmohr, Mohrson and Miss Muffet.

Jack Linse (Easy Breeze Gardens) has seedlings from crosses involving Mohrson with Berkeley Gold, Golden Eagle, White Wedgewood and Snoqualmie. He finds that Mohrson sets seed readily for him. On Ormohr he has crossed those mentioned above and Golden Fleece, Moonlight Madonna, Fair Elaine, Nightingale, Spun Gold and Matterhorn. On Lady Mohr he has crossed Berkeley Gold, Painted Lady and Midwest Gem. N. J. Thomas set seed from Snoqualmie pollen. It will



Iris Gatesii, pollen parent of variety William Mohr

be noted that he has used yellows extensively as pollen parents.

In Utah, Tell Muhlestein has begun earnest work on the Mohrs. He repeated Kleinsorge's Ormohr X Aztec Copper cross with much the same results. Tell has found Ormaco pollen fertile, but results on this are unknown to me at this date. In 1947 he registered Sporting Thomas which is a darker sport of N. J. Thomas and Sweet Dreams (Elmohr X (Mary Rich Lyon X Midwest Gem)) which is, I believe, a cream with domed standards, semi-flaring falls with gold brushed hafts and heavy substance. Its form would suggest onco influence. Two others of his on which I have no further data are Twotone Mohr (Ormohr X Cool Lemonade) and Gay Purple (Ormaco X Golden Eagle). This is just a sample of Tell's seedlings. He had in all about 1,000 to bloom in the

spring of 1950 with parentages such as William Mohr X Chosen, Elmohr X Deep Buttercup (Deep Buttercup has some onco in it from its pod parent, Betty Brown), William Mohr X Hall flamingo pink seedling, William Mohr X Provost, N. J. Thomas X Aztec Copper and Elmohr X Hall flamingo pink seedling.

Miscellaneous Mohr Derivatives

Larsen (Utah) has seedlings from William Mohr X Aldura, and (Mohrson X (Beau Ideal X Wasatch)). William Miller has one from William Mohr X Black Wings. Miss Rees (Calif.) has seedlings from Snow Flurry X Capitola, William Mohr X Happy Days and the latter back crossed to a yellow seedling. Elmer Miller (Texas) has one from William Mohr X Rosy Wings. Carl Taylor has a seedling from William Mohr and a Conquistador seedling. Reath has crossed William Mohr X Naranja; Mitchell has a seedling from William Mohr X pollen parent of Mohrson, and Hill has one from William Mohr X Tiffany. So the parade goes on and on.

Moving over into Iowa, Chet Tompkins is making much use of his 4E38 and it seems to give interesting results. 4E38 is from (William Mohr X Mussolini) and shows no onco influence, but is very fertile and is producing seed on the other Mohrs. His 43-20 is 4E38 X Golden Spike and is described as an up-side-down Lady Mohr. Both Tell Muhlestein and Chet Tompkins have seed from Lady Mohr X 43-20 and the resulting seedlings should prove very interesting. Chet writes that a seedling from William Mohr X Garden Glory failed to show onco influence. He awaits bloom on William Mohr X Majenica, a weak seedling that was hard to establish. It will be remembered that Elmohr was weak as a seedling and that Dr. Loomis almost lost it in the beginning. Chet's bloom has been frozen for the past two years, so he has a multitude of unbloomed Mohr seedlings involving William Mohr, Illusion, Elmohr, Capistrano, Lady Mohr, Ormohr, N. J. Thomas, My Day, Sonatine, Capitola, Mohrson and Ormaco with numerous tall bearded varieties.

Mrs. C. G. Whiting has several Mohr seedlings from Elmohr X Ola Kala, Elmohr X King High, Elmohr X Seduction, Elmohr X Gypsy Rose, and a few from William Mohr X Prairie Sunset and William Mohr X (Rocket X red seedling).

Still in Iowa, R. J. Rakow has registered Evermohr (William Mohr X City of Lincoln). He had the cross in 1942, but the seed was not planted until the fall of 1943 and then by his sister in Charleston, S.C., who reported that three of the five seeds germinated. Evermohr is described as a typical onco with veined, creamy lilac standards. The effect is that of a lighter William Mohr of fine rounded form with well domed standards.

From Indiana we hear only of the older registered Mohrmead of



The Van Tubergen variety Thor blooms well in Nashville when given some protection. It is an onco-regelia hybrid.

Photo by Caldwell.

Paul Cook (William Mohr X Franklin B. Mead). This one will set seed but it is small in bloom and it has plicata traits.

Down in St. Louis, Joseph Becherer has a nice one from William Mohr X Gypsy Baron and he obtained a tiny dwarf out of William Mohr X Inspiration. He says it is one of the smallest iris he has seen in all its parts and is blue in color. Ellsworth Appel obtained White Leather from Ormohr X Pink Marvel, 34 inches tall and a large white self. A sister seedling is greenish-yellow, but neither show Mohr characteristics.

In St. Joseph, Dr. H. W. Schirmer named Mohrloff (Ormohr X Orloff), described as an Ormohr with Orloff markings in deeper blue. Carl Schirmer also has a few seedlings of William Mohr derivation.

Here in Wichita breeding work on the Mohrs is in its infancy. Orville Baker has seed from William Mohr X Golden Majesty and from William Mohr X Jean Cayeux. Dr. Hugo Wall has also obtained seed from William Mohr, but I do not have the pollen parents in my notes. This writer has a single seedling from William Mohr X Depute Nomblot and he has seed planted from Elmohr, Ormohr, Grace Mohr, Miss Muffet, William Mohr, Illusion and Lady Mohr and he also has one seedling from Congress X Elmohr.

Dr. Loomis is continuing his work with William Mohr, making hundreds of crosses annually. His Parachute No. 1 is fine, large, very pale, ruffled blue-white on tall stems. This is probably surpassed by two seedlings which bloomed in 1947. These are from William Mohr X a white seedling. He has (William Mohr X Dauntless) a veined seedling, tall and flaring; (William Mohr X Type Dore) is a slow growing seedling, considerably paler than William Mohr, and closely veined. He has two "bluemohrs" one quite tall, the other short, and done in the same color pattern as Ormohr, but deeper in color. His "Pinker Elmohr" is as large, but much lighter colored than Elmohr. Then there was a grey seedling and a very nice brown one from the yellows he used on William Mohr. I believe he mentioned having bloomed thirty new seedlings in 1947. Elmohr has produced rather poor seedlings for him as it has for other breeders, and he also has had William Mohr seedlings that show no onco traits.

Mass Production by Tom Craig

Some really worthwhile things have appeared in Tom Craig's garden. He has succeeded in obtaining seed from the Mohrs by some of C. G. White's oncobreds. For example he has made such crosses as Lady Mohr X Joppa Parrot, Ormohr X Joppa Parrot and ((Purissima X Capitola) X Joppa Parrot) and it is to be noted that Tom does not do things on a small scale. In one year he had over 1,000 seeds from Snoqualmie X Capitola, over 2,000 from Purissima X Capitola (the same cross that produced Jory's Blue Elegance and Morning Blue). Several

hundred seeds came from Snow Flurry X Capitola.

Craig's widely publicized variety Peg Dabagh is from Purissima X Capitola. Heigho is from the same cross. Anatola is from (Tiffany X Los Angeles) X Capitola and Blue Ox is from Acropolis crossed with a C. G. White oncobred.

His 1950 introductions include another pale grey-blue from the Purissima X Capitola cross named Cerulean; Persian Pattern from Gay Senorita X Ib-Mac; Night Moth from (Advance Guard X Mitchell 2-21) X Jumna; Gros Grain from Wm. Mohr X (Purissima X Gudrun) and Royal Accent from Snoqualmie X Capitola. These crosses demonstrate to a small extent the results of Craig's boundless enthusiasm and energy.

There are other breeders working with this exciting new line. C. G. White has obtained some Lady Mohr seedlings. Carl Salbach and Prof. Mitchell have some and Milliken has obtained yellows from Elmohr. One of the most outstanding of the new Mohr hybrids is Lady Dozier, a deep blue purple with flaring falls and domed standards. It comes from Dr. Herbert Dozier of Lafayette, La., and is from the cross Brunhilde X Ormohr.

This little sketch should suffice to give some notion of what is going on and to lead us to expect that not many years hence, there will be many new introductions with color patterns, along onco lines, that are entirely different from those we have become accustomed to seeing in the usual garden hybrid.

Breeding the Mohrs

A word of caution to the breeder who wants to explore this new field may not be out of place. You will have to expect these to be different in behavior from the pogons. Oncos as pod parents will produce few seeds. They are slow to germinate and the resulting seedlings may be weak until established. Extra care is needed in their culture. The same careful selection and wholesale discarding will have to be practiced as in any line of breeding. The discarding will have to be more ruthless even than with the pogons because the percentage of good things is smaller. The hybrid factor has a tendency to throw many small, poorly shaped blooms. Most of the seedlings will be sterile or nearly so. These irises are notoriously poor pod parents and poor pollen parents. Be sure to choose the best for pollen parents. This will save at least some disappointments. It must be remembered that the crossing of poor parents in any line does not give good results.

Since there are thousands of Mohr seedlings growing now it is to be expected that some rather poor ones will be named and perhaps even introduced. This is to be deplored, of course, but it should not discourage the serious breeder who may look forward with confidence to results of interest and of great value.

Recent Developments in Oncocyclus Breeding

TOM CRAIG, (Calif.)

Clarence White's garden in early spring must be seen by anyone before he is qualified to make many comprehensive statements about oncocyclus iris. One look and the one big question is, "How can I grow these too?" Mr. White has devoted decades trying to answer this question for you and only recently feels he is near an answer. The unbelievable quality and variety in his pure oncocyclus and their apparent unending novelty have tantalized him to try a wide variety of breeding projects to establish these elegant flowers in plants that can be grown by any good gardener. He has an unusual appreciation of plastic values and a quick eye for the novel as it appears among his seedlings. Because his view of iris breeding is highly original, and because it is supported by a fierce determination and demand for results, there would seem to be little left to do but watch and cheer him. The energy, time and money he has devoted to his oncos is so great, few anywhere are in a position to repeat his work even if they would care to do so.

He has released many excellent hybrids that are well known and cherished garden flowers and has created the oncobred type and coined the word "oncobred" that is used to describe the type. At the present time he has in his seed and trial beds something new. Joppa Parrot, Asoka of Nepal and to a lesser extent Jumna are forerunners of this new lot of C. G. White oncobreds. They are very fertile especially as pollen parents and open up great possibilities in new lines of iris breeding. Most of us who have seen his recent hybrids feel that at long last he has the break he has been working for. The early oncobreds now become precious examples of the fine early periods of this culture—examples to be cherished and preserved as long as possible like all beautiful products of the imagination and inventiveness of men.

Frank Reinelt worked on a similar project that almost met death several times before it succumbed as a war casualty. First, one heavy out of season watering at his coastal garden at Capitola set up rot and decimated his stocks. What was left he moved to the Sierra foothills where he built up a fine large stock. I never saw this planting, but Sydney Mitchell described this onco field as the finest display of iris he has ever seen, and who has seen more iris or who is better qualified to judge them than Dr. Mitchell. I can well imagine the sight for I can think of no plant that produces the mass and wealth of flowers of a well grown oncocyclus iris.

War gasoline shortages kept Reinelt from his onco plantings and they were lost to gophers and weeds. He and Sydney Mitchell salvaged young plants from 2nd and 3rd year germination and Prof. Jory and myself, and I believe Mr. White and Mr. Austin, also received at least a small start of his fine plants.

His great achievement came from none of this extensive work but from the simple cross of William Mohr X Ib-Mac which gave him Capitola. The value of this iris for breeding can't be overestimated. The reason is obvious. *Gatesii* is the largest oncocyclus and has fine substance and delicate all-over pattern. *Parisiana* gives good plicata blood. *Iberica* is a choice oncocyclus of large size—a brown and white amoena. It brings the signal patch into William Mohr line breeding. *Macrantha* was among the best Eupogons of its day being relatively rich, heavy and full.

Recent Results

Our editor asked me to tell you what I knew of the most recent results of onco hybridizing and to avoid material already published in the Bulletin. Hence no mention is made of the general development of the Mohr line. The White and Reinelt breeding projects are described briefly because intelligent discussion of breeding oncos must start from an appreciation of the difficulties of working close to the onco species. Only the most determined mind and stoutest soul could persist through the disappointments. My first years of broad outcrossings were made on the grand scale. About one cross in 50 set a pod and I had perhaps 400-500 pods. When I opened these pods perhaps 5% contained seeds, very few of which germinated. Those set on Eupogons from onco pollen proved to be dominantly pure Eupogon in character and probably were from bee pollinations.

Those set on the oncos proved weak and mostly died out. I have so far discouraged extensive growing of pure oncocyclus, but I would certainly encourage you to try them on a small scale when you can get them as no more handsome flowers exist. Grow them for themselves and use the pollen in new imaginative combination. Remember, oncocyclus iris have been garden flowers for about 400 years and they are still so rare they are hard to buy and everyone who sees them wants to grow them! They must be frequently started fresh from seed and have no doubt tempted every hybridizer who has had them in his garden. So much has been tried and so little accomplished so far, success must come from new and imaginative approaches with old plant materials or better yet, use of new plant materials—hence my further discussion of the work of White and Reinelt whose hybrids are currently of special value.

Jory Hybrids

Prof. Stafford Jory produced among the first Mohr hybrids and has been, over a period of years, the most persistent and patient in-breeder of this line. Ever since he flowered the seedling he named Grace Mohr he has been outbreeding it to a variety of plicatas and iris of warm colors and then inbreeding these seedlings. As soon as other Mohr hybrids came on the market he tried every conceivable combination between his seedlings and these hybrids. The long time involved and the number and variety in selected seedlings have allowed him to inbreed the Mohrs with greater success than any other hybridizer. So far he has released:

Grace Mohr—well known reddish purple
Moab (Grace Mohr seedling X Capitola)—rich dark brown
Gaza (Grace Mohr seedling X Capitola)—subdued pink
Askalon (Grace Mohr seedling X Capitola)—lavender pink
Hebron (Grace Mohr seedling X Capitola)—honey brown
Canaan (Grace Mohr seedling X Capitola)—blue grey
Mt. Sinai (Grace Mohr seedling X Capitola)—odd lustre
Morning Blue (Purissima X Capitola)—large pale blue
Blue Elegance (sister to Morning Blue)—deeper, greyer and better formed.

Mt. Ararat (Grace Mohr X Miss Muffett)—blue violet plicata

It is of interest that no Jory first generation seedling of Grace Mohr, Ormohr, Elmohr or Lady Mohr has been worthy of introduction or even the crosses between these varieties. The Grace Mohr seedlings that were the seed parents of most of his selections were really very mediocre flowers but they did not look pure Eupogon. Capitola pollen gave further onco character in novel colors. Jory has further color variety among his Mohr seedlings including an odd greenish yellow with form similar to Elmohr. It comes from ((Grace Mohr seedling) X Grace Mohr) X Yellow bearded seedling. He has been trying to breed pink-bud Mohrs and is working in his second generation on Cherie X Capitola.

Mr. White's oncocyclis were a revelation to me when I first started breeding iris. It was hard to believe such flowers existed anywhere and remain so little known. I coveted them to a degree I should blush to admit. At that time all other iris breeding seemed inconsequential. I determined to try another way to breed these hybrids. I could not work with difficult plants for I was in no position to do so. I decided to breed first for strength and get the onco flower on my plants especially by inbreeding strong oncobreds and by occasionally using onco pollen on my hybrid seedlings. I bought William Mohr in mass and wheedled a plant of Ib-Mac from Dr. Berry, bargaining my drawings for this



Professor Stafford Jory with his hybrids Blue Elegance and Morning Blue.

From Kodachrome by Corliss.

cherished little father of wonders. I put Ib-Mac pollen on everything I had including William Mohr, and tried everything on William Mohr. Mr. White gave me oncocyclis flowers and I made every imaginable cross while the pollen lasted. The seedlings from these crosses were scattered through the garden, mostly unflowered, when war came. I believe I had Miss Muffett and Capitola by this time too.

For a couple of years I saw no bearded iris flowers save albicans and pallida. On a hill back of Algiers an onco or oncobred was used as a border around a drive but I did not see it flower and have always remained curious about it. In Africa, Arab boys sold me large bunches of exquisite *Iris alata* and I filled my helmet full of water and used it as a vase.

Post War Efforts

After the war years when I saw our garden again it was full of flowering hybrids. The best purissima X Ib-Mac was named Silver Charm. Other crosses of Ib-Mac were not worthy of keeping and subsequent crosses on them were not very productive. We have an iris here in Southern California that we call Crimson King, but I think it is *I. kochii*. It is thought to be sterile but I had seedlings from it crossed with a great variety of dwarfs, intermediates, tall bearded and Ib-Mac. This Ib-Mac seedling was practically everblooming and as an intermediate had everything but substance. I worked hard to breed

it and raised some seedlings; the best was from a selfed flower. It was fine and heavy and the blackest thing yet seen but it died out. The William Mohr seedlings were not exciting enough to name but three from William Mohr X Radiant had considerable quality and nice pink to rose color. Acropolis X pollen from White's onco gave me a big heavy lavender blue Eupogon which is proving a very fine parent. There were about 20,000 seedling iris around and I cut this down to about 100 clones and started fresh especially using Capitola and Ib-Mac and Miss Muffett. This last has never given me anything of value. I crowded the garden with all the Mohrs. White, Mitchell and Reinelt sent me pure oncos and I went to work on a big scale. Sydney Mitchell and Carl Salbach gave me quantities of Mohr line pollen from their gardens which allowed me fresh pollen to use on my late flowers for their blooming period is much later than mine.

I cannot estimate exactly how many thousands of seedlings I've since flowered, but it is not far from 100,000. I'm pleased to work closely with Clarence White and each of us has the best of the other's seedlings. Stafford Jory has allowed me to use his breeding seedlings. So far, I've encouraged Mr. White in his work pollinating onco species and close hybrids with the oncobreds to put onco flowers on stronger plants. I have continued to work the other direction because I'm unable to give care to large stocks of oncocyclus. Mostly, I grow them for pollen and am really doing little more than playing with them.

Variety Appraisal

By using pollen of Mr. White's new oncobreds, plus Ib-Mac, and Capitola on Eupogons and on my big oncobreds I now have so many oncobred seedlings of great vigor and size that selection becomes the major problem. I will briefly list what experience has told me of the breeding value of the available hybrids.

(1) Of some value but now dropped from breeding because the effort does not justify results achieved: William Mohr, Mohrson, Ormohr, Altamohr, Silver Charm, Barrimohr, Illusion.

(2) Of possible real worth but results so far disappointing: Elmohr, Peg Dabagh, Ormaco, Blue Elegance, Suez, Anatolia. Lady Mohr would be in this class except for one very worthwhile pink highly patterned flower. It came from Lady Mohr X tangerine bearded pink seedling.

(3) Apparently excellent breeders but still too new to be much tested; Asoka of Nepal (p) *, Askalon, Canaan, Gaza, Hebron, Moab, Mt. Sinai, Mt. Ararat, Hurricane, Cerulean, Persian Pattern, Jumna (p), Night Moth, Gros Grain, Royal Accent.

(4) Proven good parents: Heigho (s) **, Capitola (p), Ib-Mac (p), Joppa Parrot (p), Blue Ox (s).

* p refers to pollen parent

** s refers to seed parent



Variety Peg Dabagh (Craig, T. '48) is a blue violet derivative of William Mohr.
From Kodachrome by Corliss.

(5) Good Eupogons to use with the onco hybrids: Many plicatas, Purissima, Berkeley Gold, Gay Senorita, Fairy Foam, Mariposa Mia, Snoqualmie, Snow Flurry, Acropolis, Moon Goddess, Molten.

The following good qualities may be inherited from oncocyclus parents:

- (1) Tough texture to flowers.
- (2) Breadth of flower parts.
- (3) Incredibly beautiful flower pattern including signal patch which may be black, red orange, red purple, intense gold, red-sienna brown.
- (4) Broad beard accenting signal and heart of flower.
- (5) Great variation in flower and plant size.
- (6) New genes for color!
- (7) Maximum floriferousness of any iris and rapid increase.
- (8) Extended flowering periods.
- (9) Ease in handling rhizomes which can be dried back months and handled like daffodils and tulips.
- (10) Drouth resistance.

The following bad qualities may be inherited from oncocyclus parents:

- (1) Very subject to nematodes.
- (2) Very subject to iris virus.
- (3) Very subject to iris rust.
- (4) Very subject to iris leaf spot.

(5) Subject to more variety of garden fungi than most bearded iris.

(6) Stem unbranched. I do not consider this bad for the stem displays the flower well.

I believe the tendency to have a fixed criterion for judging iris (or anything else) is a growing tendency that is not altogether a blessing. It is good in that it defines some flower and plant qualities facilitating discussion and thought. It is no substitute for taste and experience. The current common overemphasis on color smoothness against pattern is unfortunate and limiting and unimaginative.

Results from Craig Oncocyclus Breeding Program

(1) From pollinations on pure oncos—A few vigorous small oncobreds two of which are very fertile and may prove of great value. All other seedlings shortlived or sterile and not great in quality.

(2) Diploids X pure oncos—I raised many of these, mostly small and rather poor. One from Clara Noyes X pure onco may be worthwhile as it grows easily and has much pattern. Here it flowers rather lightly.

(3) William Mohr hybrids direct from William Mohr—Of the many raised only Gros Grain from William Mohr X (Purissima X Gudrun) was named. It is like Ormohr with more pattern and better form but not as tall.

(4) Plicatas X Capitola produced odd patterned flowers, reds, red purples, lavenders, etc.

Anatolia from (Tiffany X Los Angeles) X Capitola is a good strong growing onco plicata and the best of its type I've seen.

((Tiffany X Los Angeles) X (China Maid)) X Capitola was a fine cross.

(5) Plicatas X Joppa Parrot produced many strange plicata patterns in reds and browns.

((Tiffany X Los Angeles) X (Tiffany X Los Angeles)) X Joppa Parrot was an especially good cross with highly patterned warm flowers.

((Advance Guard) X Mitchell 2-21) X Jumna gave Night Moth, a big tall oncobred with a signal and foliage like an Eupogon.

(6) A whole series of medium sized oncobreds in great color variety come from many and varied crosses. Many are immensely vigorous and floriferous. Some are twice bloomers.

Royal Accent (Snoqualmie X Capitola)—purple with strong signal.
Persian Pattern (Gay Senorita X Ib-Mac)—olive gold lined maroon on falls.

Gros Grain (William Mohr X (Purissima X Gudrun))—much veined flaring Ormohr type. Short but perfect branched stem.

Chartreuses, roses, red purples, etc., mainly from Joppa Parrot pollen.



Variety Hurricane (Craig, T. '49) varies from a pale blue self to a flower striped and flecked in an exotic manner. From Kodachrome by Corliss.

Elegant small ruffled pale blues very onco-like are relatives of my big garden blues. They come from Purissima and Capitola and Snow Flurry and Capitola. Also from Blue Ox X Ib-Mac and Blue Ox X Capitola.

(7) Extremely odd blended oncos unlike anything I've seen in iris. They come from primarily these sources:

Heigho X Gay Seniorita

Gay Seniorita X Joppa Parrot

Moon Goddess X Ib-Mac

(Purissima X Capitola) X Joppa Parrot.

(8) Giant oncobreds include:

Peg Dabagh—best deep blue

Heigho—best violet

Hurricane—beautiful form, pale blue-grey, splashed ultramarine.

Cerulean—clearest light blue

These are all from Purissima X Capitola.

Acropolis X Capitola gave me a fine deep blue purple.

(Tiffany X Los Angeles) X Capitola gave a rich big red purple and a giant pink which I believe is now lost to rot.

In this garden no pure Eupogon blues and violets compare in quality as garden plants or individual flowers with the large Capitola seedlings. Blue Ox X Chivalry gave a shocker of an immense deep blue.

(9) Plicatas come from any of the Mohrs or Joppa Parrot. Novel patterns are developing with haft smudges, linings and very light tracery all over the flower. Mariposa Mia has been useful with these.

(10) I have had several pinks although yellows often come from attempted breeding of pink Mohrs. Last year, I had a highly patterned pink from Lady Mohr X tangerine bearded pink seedling. A curious thing was that it produced some unpatterned conventional blends on the same stem as the patterned flowers. I think this means the patterning is superficial and controlled by perhaps a single factor.

Full Color Range

I won't describe thousands of selected seedlings but now I can say we have about as full a color range in onco hybrids as in introduced Eupogons. Stems are just as good as most Eupogons. They are more rapid increasers and heavier bloomers with better and better resistance to disease each year. I have no trouble to speak of in these new varieties and some degree of success has been reported in climates like Iowa and Ontario, Canada.

Pure oncocyclus iris have few, if any, competitors in any flowers for individual beauty of the flower. They are limited as garden plants only because of the difficulty in growing them.

The new giant onco hybrids are a new thing under the sun. They are as tall and large as almost any pure Eupogon and generally they are far more floriferous. One-year plants of Heigho, Peg Dabagh and others often give 3 to 15 flower spikes. In vigor they are far easier to grow than the old Mohr hybrids.

When I hear sweeping depreciations of the oncos I recognize ignorance or prejudice. They do present problems of growing, but this is getting better each year. It is not impossible that they will cause as great a change in the next ten years as did the advent of iris tetraploids on the iris world—a frightening consideration for commercial growers particularly since the increase rate of the onco hybrids is relatively so great. In the last three years our breeding programs have immeasurably improved the onco hybrids in vigor, size, branching and variety. The breeding possibilities give greater promise in the future. The question of breeding vigorous plants with the real onco flowers is a possibility not yet touched but we are near it.

To those who don't know the oncocyclus, Reginald Farrer's description of these iris will give a hint of what this will mean to iris culture.

Spraying Eliminates Iris Pests and Diseases

ISABELLE BOWEN HENDERSON, (N.C.)

There is an old Chinese proverb which says "Once is never; twice is habit." This seems to apply very aptly to garden spraying. The first time is difficult for the inexperienced. Deciding what to spray with, how to spray, and collecting the materials and equipment is a chore. The actual spraying, though not difficult, is one of the more boring garden activities. Between the first spraying and the second the gardener is apt to mangle, welcoming or even making other tasks to postpone getting at the spraying. Psychologically this time is crucial. When done, the gardener will be surprised to find that the second time was much easier than the first. Twice is usually enough spraying to show marked improvement and so, bolstered by his success, the gardener will be urging fellow gardeners to spray, sometimes even turning up in his neighbor's garden flourishing a spraying wand. By necessity, the rosarians lead the ranks of habitual sprayers. And now it would seem that the irisarians must follow.

Discussion by Anley

Of the pests and diseases of iris we have many—with subheadings—three or four kinds of rhizome rot, two kinds of leaf spot. Perhaps we do not have them all in this country and iris growers should be thankful and take comfort. Gwendolyn Anley, an Englishwoman, in her very interesting book on irises, lists in "Pests and Diseases of Irises," leatherjackets, leafminers, swift moths, wire worms, millipedes and vine weevils. Of these I have seen only millipedes, and she says they do no harm. Of the swift moth, she says it resembles "the Borer, (she capitalizes it) the terror of so many American iris growers." This was true when she wrote, several years ago, but it need no longer be so. Only three or four rounds of spraying with D.D.T. in the early spring will effectively eliminate borer even where the infestation has been great. Those who hesitate to undertake spraying should weigh against it hours of back-bending search for the grubs, the damage and disfigurement done by borer and searcher alike, followed by the destruction and rot from borers inevitably left behind. The presence of borers is always most obvious at blooming time in the very presence of the beauty which is threatened. It is the time when the gardener should be free to enjoy grooming the irises, making records, and perhaps doing a bit of hybridizing—not on frantically tearing at iris leaves (I'm told that a crochet hook is an efficient probing instrument). I am further convinced that cutting or breaking the leaf blade below the point where it becomes divided permits water to run down close to the rhizome,

and in wet, hot seasons accounts for the onset of rhizome rot. So indirectly borer hunting can lead to rot even when the borer is destroyed.

Bee, or Thrip Pods?

Of the pests, Mrs. Anley does not mention aphids or thrips. These probably help to spread disease. I am sure that they are responsible for more chance pollinating in my garden than bumblebees. The 1949 blooming season was without spraying. There were many aphids and thrips. I had about sixty untagged seed pods to form. This year there were eleven, and I was amazed to find that only two of these contained any seed at all. Since I had sprayed with D.D.T. and nicotine sulphate there were no thrips and aphids. My own crossing produced the usual number of takes, and all these pods contained seeds.

Mrs. Anley's list of diseases sounds more familiar than her list of pests—several varieties of rot, scorch and leaf spot. She does not discriminate between the fungus and the bacterial leaf spots, though from her description she seems to have both kinds. Fungus leaf spot is very simply controlled and prevented by adding Fermate to the D.D.T. spray. But the bacterial leaf spot or blight, scorch and pineappling show no response to spraying.

Leaf Blight

Of these diseases, bacterial leaf blight is most damaging because it tends to become epidemic though it is not as destructive to each plant affected as scorch and pineappling. In 1950 there were fewer than ten examples each of these two diseases in my planting of about 500 clumps. But in 1949 only three clumps were unaffected by bacterial leaf blight. These three were the same variety in three separate locations (Sousun). During this dreadful summer I searched the Bulletins for help but found nothing new. I was careful to tear off diseased foliage and not to cut with bacteria laden knife or scissors. I took the refuse far, far away—I laugh at the admonition to burn the soggy mess. I could more easily have boiled it. It rained two or three times a week for seven weeks with blistering hot intervals. This was during the period after blooming when rhizomes are supposed to be “curing” and to be in a sort of dormant state, at which time they seem most susceptible to rot. Good drainage is nothing when the ground is never allowed to dry. And when heat and moisture are present everything contributes to rot, especially bacterial leaf blight. Soggy lesions near the top of the leaf blades in a day or two extend downward to the rhizome which promptly rots. At this point only digging, trimming, disinfecting and drying out under cover will save the rhizome unless a dry season comes.

During this time I sprayed valiantly. A plant pathologist at the N.C. State College confirmed the bacterial character of the disease and suggested trying Puritized Agricultural Spray with a detergent as a spreader

(any one of the much advertised "not soap" washing products would do). This detergent left the leaves a wet yellowish green color. During sunny intervals they dried slowly but picked up wetness again whenever there was the slightest rain, dew or mist. I sprayed at weekly intervals three times. The blight became worse. I felt that the iris leaf, which sheds water like a duck's back, could not be helped by being kept in a state of unnatural wetness.

Having read somewhere that the bacterial leaf blight was a "virus" disease, I went to a tobacco disease specialist at N. C. State College and learned that the virus diseases of tobacco have been defeated only by breeding for resistance. So breed for resistance, he said. I came home and checked. Only Sousun was resisting.

Dryer, cooler weather came. I cleaned up again, spraying ground and remaining scant foliage with Bordeaux mixture and called it a summer.

Spring Spraying in 1950

In 1950 the iris foliage did not start into spring growth because the fall growth never stopped. It was an unusually mild winter and an exceptionally early spring. I had resolved to follow a weekly spray schedule for borer, but I sprayed only twice, the first time in mid March when some of the foliage was twelve or fifteen inches high. I felt very sad while spraying because I was sure the little hatched out borer grubs had already crawled into the leaves, but I had added Fermate and nicotine sulphate to the D.D.T. and was glad the leaves looked so spotless. I sprayed again in ten days. I intended to spray again before the bloom started, but bloom started in early April. Then I began noticing that there were no nibbled edges to be found on the clean leafed fans which meant no borer. The whole season's crop of borers was fourteen, where hundreds had been the year before! In my friends' unsprayed gardens, it was a borer year. One friend in particular is a cleaner cultivator than I am, but he did not spray, and his borers were legion, so I am sure it was D.D.T. and not fall clean-up which saved me. I sprayed again after the blooming season with the usual D.D.T., Fermate and nicotine sulphate. A wet hot July brought rot in variety, but no return of bacterial leaf blight. In saying this I knock on wood with crossed finger, for it has been written in the AIS Bulletins that bacterial leaf blight "comes and goes," but not that one attack builds up immunity against another.

Proven Mix

The following spray I use with confidence that it will eliminate borers, aphids, thrips and fungus leaf spot if applied at weekly intervals after the foliage starts its spring growth and until blooming starts. I base this confidence on the results of my three 1950 sprayings

only, two before and one after blooming, which substantially eliminated borer and completely eliminated fungus leaf spot, thrips and aphids.

For three gallons—

6 level tablespoons 50% Wettable D.D.T.

2 level tablespoons Dupont Spreader Sticker

3 level tablespoons Fermate

1½ level tablespoons Nicotine Sulphate

The D.D.T. resembles pancake mix and must be made first into a paste and then a sort of batter before it is stirred into the water. The Fermate looks like soot and is mixed the same as the D.D.T., separately. The nicotine sulphate, a liquid, is added next, and then the spreader sticker. Some recommend less spreader sticker, but I cannot get good coverage with less than two tablespoons to three gallons. Hardness of the water may affect this. In this spray, the materials D.D.T. and Fermate are not in solution but in suspension and so agitation of the mixture while in use is necessary. A three or four gallon pressure tank on the shoulder is easily shaken. The spray in an open bucket with spray pump is more difficult to keep in suspension. A small hand sprayer cannot be used effectively with spray material not in solution. This spray is very effective and exceedingly inexpensive.

On the other hand, there is a nationally advertised borer eradicator selling for \$2.30 a quart which makes 8 gallons of spray. In the spray there is 12½% of D.D.T. and 32½% Xylene, the remainder being inert materials, probably some spreading agent and water. Xylene is a solvent for D.D.T. It is similar to a Naptha cleaning fluid. The Sanitary Division of the N. C. Board of Health offers for \$1.45 a gallon, a mixture which is 25% D.D.T. and 60% Xylene. With a pint of this plus a little spreader sticker one could make eight gallons of spray just like the borer eradicator spray for twenty cents or a little less. I shall not use it, however, since I never intend to spray for borer alone with Fermate or to use a sprayer which cannot take suspended materials.

Time vs. Cost

Time and energy are more important considerations than expense of materials in iris spraying. My planting requires 16 gallons of spray. My open tank holds 8 gallons. It has not been satisfactory because the bolted-on attachment for the pump is continually tearing away from the tank, which is not stout enough for the strain put upon it. Welding breaks, usually in the midst of spraying. I have not used smaller pressure tank sprayers because of the bother of repeated mixings and refillings and pumping up. As it is, with a helper to pump and wheel the spray tank I need about four hours to spray all the irises. I was much taken with the idea of the small pressure tank on wheels using compressed air for pressure, until I learned that I would

use a cylinder every time I sprayed the iris. Refilling the small tank and replacing the cylinder of compressed air so often did not appeal to me, although it was good not to need a helper for spraying. I have now bought a small power sprayer with a gasoline engine. Its tank is closed, so there is no splashing of spray. It wheels as easily as a baby stroller. Now one person can do the job in a little more than an hour, after the spray is mixed. More spray is used for the same coverage with the power sprayer, but in every other respect it is wonderfully efficient. The whole garden will benefit. Incidentally the spray described is a well balanced garden spray and can be safely used on anything in the garden, and irises need not be singled out when spraying. Phloxes especially profit from it.

I have not spoken of dusting as a means of applying insecticides and fungicides. In my dusting experience, the only thorough coverage was to myself. The material in irregular application is conspicuous and ugly. I am told that much more material is used than for spraying. Certainly it is more difficult to dust than spray, excepting for patches so small that the time of mixing the spray is greater than the time it would take to use the puff gun and wash your hair.

Now if somebody will just find me a material which cures bacterial leaf blight I can proceed to grow irises with confidence and pleasure, without wondering if, after all, the hemerocallis is not the ideal hardy perennial—at least, until the diseases and pests catch up with it.

Walter Marx Gardens

BORING, OREGON

Offers you the WORLD'S MOST COMPREHENSIVE IRIS COLLECTION; also the SENSATIONAL JAN DE GRAAFF LILIES, BEST NEW HEMEROCALLIS, POPULAR EARLY ENGLISH CHRYSANTHEMUMS, and other EXCITING MID-CENTURY CREATIONS FOR GARDENS EVERYWHERE.

Send for our big CATALOG beautifully ILLUSTRATED in COLOR.

Our irises include: Tall, Intermediate and Dwarf Bearded;
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Reticulata; Japanese, Siberian, Spuria, Louisiana,
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Iris Favorites of the Ohio River Valley

And Some Notes on the National Symposium

M. W. BOESEL

The publication of the annual Symposium of the American Iris Society is an event that is keenly anticipated by many an iris enthusiast. Quite appropriately the results of the poll are widely quoted and carry considerable weight with the iris public. It is not surprising then that every effort has been made to refine the methods of selecting the hundred favorites. The recent adoption of the balanced rating system has given us a relatively stable and probably an exceedingly valid list of fine varieties.

The writer counts himself among those who are highly delighted with the official Symposium, particularly when it is compared with the older system of assigning fixed ratings to varieties. He has felt however that if one were to confine his purchases to the Symposium list some of the most worthy garden personalities would be missed. How could one devise a list which might be somewhat more conservative than the current national Symposium, a list which one could perhaps offer to a beginner as a safe buying guide for outstanding varieties? It occurred to the writer that it might be enlightening to conduct a popularity contest involving the entire membership of the AIS but that seemed quite out of the question. Finding compromise necessary, he restricted his coverage to states adjoining the Ohio River with memberships as follows: Indiana, 66; Ohio, 79; Pennsylvania, 76; West Virginia, 16; and Kentucky, 30. Excluding library memberships, this gives us a total of 267. To each member a card was sent, with the following statement: "What are your ten favorite iris varieties, particularly among those which you grow or know best? Preferably exclude those which you know only in a casual way. Varieties mentioned may be old or new and may belong to any type of iris. Even if you prefer to list only one or a few favorites, return of the attached card will be appreciated. The number of the card identifies the sender and the region but all names will of course be kept strictly confidential." The return card had spaces for ten varieties. Cards were sent out on February 7, 1949. There were 106 returns, or about 39.7%. For the most part, correspondents had sent in their replies before publication of the 1948 Symposium. It would seem therefore that the choices were not to any great extent influenced by the 1948 Symposium. Cards continued to arrive for months. It was impossible to know what proportion of the returns came from accredited judges because no list of judges was available. It is regrettable if certain misunderstandings arose regarding the poll. My

first reaction was to bury the results but one could not entirely ignore the fact that much collective thought had gone into filling out the cards. Several correspondents noted that it was quite impossible to name ten favorites. Several expressed an enthusiastic interest in the results. To satisfy their consciences, some added a few favorites beyond ten. Several noted that their list was based primarily on dependability which seems, in the minds of many, a major consideration in designating favorites. Two went so far as to state that they had newer varieties which they liked better but withheld their names for further trial.

Tabulation of the results of the poll proved more difficult than had been anticipated. Two figures were determined for each variety: (1) total number of votes received; (2) number of points received, counting each first-choice vote as 10, a second-choice vote as 9, and so on. Several indicated that their varieties were not listed in the order of preference. In such cases, 5½ points were assigned to each variety. Where more than ten varieties were listed, those assigned to the tenth position and beyond were each given one point. Varieties were then ranked, first according to the number of votes and then according to the number of points. An average of the two figures thus arrived at determined the final ranking. It will be noted therefore in the following tabulation that rank is based on a combination of the figures in the first two columns after the varietal name. The last column gives the position in the official 1949 Judges' Symposium, for comparative purposes. It is of course fully understood that the two lists cannot be accurately compared, for several reasons.

<i>Rank*</i>	<i>Variety</i>	<i>Votes</i>	<i>Points</i>	1949
				<i>Symposium</i> <i>Position</i>
1. (1,1)	Great Lakes	58	397½	2
2. (2,2)	Sable	45	272½	8
3. (3,3)	Wabash	40	261	12
4. (4,4)	Elmohr	33	222	9
5. (5,5)	Amigo	25	147½	26
6. (6,7)	Prairie Sunset	25	136	23
7. (8,6)	Ola Kala	20	143	1
8. (7,8)	Gudrun	22	123	109
9. (10,9)	Snow Flurry	16	111	15
10. (9,11)	The Red Douglas	18	101	62
11. (11,10)	Blue Shimmer	15	105	11
12. (12,16)	China Maid	14	60	54
13. (19,12)	Berkeley Gold	9	70½	13
14. (13,19)	Ming Yellow	11	55	98
15. (16,17)	Grand Canyon	10	60	37
16. (21,13)	Minnie Colquitt	8	66	55
17. (14,21)	Frieda Mohr	11	52	—
18. (22,14)	Shining Waters	8	63	89
19. (17,20)	Matterhorn	10	54½	81
20. (15,23)	Los Angeles	11	44	24

		1949 Symposium		
Rank*	Variety	Votes	Points	Position
21. (20,18)	Christabel	9	57	68
22. (23,15)	Missouri	8	61	90
23. (18,22)	Golden Treasure	10	44½	80
24. (24,25)	Spun Gold	8	40	52
25. (25,24)	Gloriole	7	43	69
26. (26,26)	Mulberry Rose	7	38½	25
27. (27,27)	Golden Majesty	7	37	66
28. (28,30)	Ormohr	7	35	114
29. (29,33)	City of Lincoln	7	33	64
30. {	{ Fair Elaine	6	31	38
31. {	{ (30,35) Tiffany	6	31	99
32. (39,28)	William Mohr	5	37	—
33. (32,37)	Lighthouse	6	30	125
34. (40,29)	Snoqualmie	5	36	—
35. (41,31)	Goldbeater	5	34	46

Examination of the list of thirty-five favored varieties reveals many old favorites. As might possibly have been anticipated, nearly all of these appeared in the 1949 Symposium. There are three notable exceptions: *Frieda Mohr* in seventeenth place, *William Mohr* in thirty-second place, and *Snoqualmie* in thirty-fourth place. This may suggest that these varieties enjoy higher regard than their absence in the Judges' Symposium would indicate. A nationwide poll would of course be necessary to prove this. We must remember that the three varieties mentioned have no opportunity of placing in the Judges' Symposium since they have not won the necessary awards. Placing sixty-first was *Jake*, another variety that has won no awards entitling it to compete for a place in the Symposium. It was mentioned as a favorite by five correspondents. *Paulette* is in a similar category, mentioned by three as a favorite. Interestingly enough, one unnamed variety, SQ72 of Loomis, placed ninety-fourth.

It is perhaps worth noting the appearance of some fine older varieties in high places. An example is *Gudrun*, which placed eighth; it had disappeared from the Symposium in 1946 and 1947, only to reappear in 1948 when a more conservative rating plan was adopted. It was of course to be expected that the list here presented would emphasize older varieties because correspondents were asked to list only varieties well known to them, preferably grown by them. Furthermore, voting was not limited to judges. The total number of varieties mentioned in the poll was 275. All of the first hundred varieties were tall bearded iris or were hybrids in which tall bearded varieties appeared in the ancestry.

*Figures in parentheses indicate rank according to votes and total points respectively; average of the two figures determined final ranking.

So far as the writer is concerned, this sort of poll need never be repeated. It is perhaps of interest on a regional basis but it seems apparent that the national Symposium is quite adequate. One may wonder however why varieties such as *Frieda Mohr*, *William Mohr*, *Snoqualmie*, *Jake* and others have not been brought within the scope of the Symposium. It would certainly be interesting to see what would happen if the judges were given an opportunity to vote for these. It would seem that the assumption that only award-winning varieties are worthy of a place in the Symposium is fallacious. That awards are not always infallibly assigned is indicated by the fact that many award iris pass quickly out of prominence. Compare the current position of the sister varieties *San Francisco*, which won the Dykes, and *Los Angeles*, which did not, and one may be convinced that the winning of medals is no final criterion of desirability. Note also that the prime favorites *Sable*, *Amigo*, and *Snow Flurry* have not won a Dykes Medal.

This is not meant to be harshly critical of the Symposium. And it would appear that changes made in conducting the 1948 and 1949 Symposia were most desirable since they tend to retain in it some of the fine older varieties and to give more stability to the favored list. In fact, had the improved lists been available earlier, this poll might never have been undertaken.

It is even conceivable that we should not think in terms of modifying the national Symposium further, although continued change is doubtless more or less inevitable. Perhaps we should think rather of devising a separate list of popular varieties, permitting the entire membership of the AIS to participate. It would also be possible to set up a less ambitious program by circularizing names only after they have been on the membership list five or ten years, or even longer. This plan might, with modification, help to solve the general problem of establishing criteria for obsolescence.

Notes on the 1950 Awards – The Dykes Medal

The Dykes Memorial Medal for 1950 has been awarded to a blue iris for the second consecutive year. Blue Rhythm, originated and introduced by Mrs. Charles W. Whiting of Mapleton, Iowa, received that award on the recommendation of one hundred accredited judges of the society. This represented approximately one-third of the 319 votes cast, which is a remarkable tribute to this iris.

Blue Rhythm is a large medium blue flower with smooth, flowing form, and grows on a strong stalk with fine branching. The falls are of a smooth color which reaches up into the haft. It came from Annabel

x Blue Zenith, two of Mrs. Whiting's introductions, was registered in 1945, received Honorable Mention in 1945, and Award of Merit in 1947. This year at the annual meeting of the Society, Mrs. Whiting had a long row of Blue Rhythm in full bloom and well grown, which easily won the President's Cup. This cup is awarded "to the originator of the outstanding named variety of any duly introduced iris seen at the time of the Annual Meeting growing in any garden on the program, and judged by the members of the A. I. S. attending, to be the most meritorious iris seen at the Meeting". Blue Rhythm seems to grow well in all parts of the country as it was voted for by judges from 19 of the 21 regions. It is interesting to note that in its pedigree Blue Rhythm has Blue Triumph, Aline, and Sierra Blue.

The Dykes Memorial Medal is the highest award that can be given an iris and is awarded yearly by the Iris Society of England through the American Iris Society. To be eligible an iris must have received an Award of Merit within the past three years, and be recommended by at least twenty-five judges.

THE AWARD OF MERIT

The Award of Merit is given yearly to irises that have been officially registered and duly introduced and that have received an Honorable Mention not less than two nor more than six years prior to the current season. In 1950 the award was given to the eight tall bearded varieties and the two other varieties receiving the most votes in the competition. The rules prescribe a minimum of ten votes for tall bearded varieties and seven votes for other varieties, but it is to be noted that a much larger number is required, particularly in tall bearded iris.

Heretofore there has been a class for tall bearded iris of American and Canadian origin, a class for other than tall bearded of American and Canadian origin, and a class for foreign varieties. For this last class few, if any, iris have been eligible. For 1951 the Directors have made these into one class. The Award of Merit is to be open to iris which have received Honorable Mention, of any origin, and of any classification, except dwarf and Siberian, and the Directors have provided for a total of 12 awards. A special award for dwarf iris, called the Caparne Award, and one for Siberian iris, called the Morgan Award, have been established. These special awards may be extended to other classes of iris. To be eligible for any of these special awards as well as for Award of Merit an iris must have received an Honorable Mention. In this way it is hoped to recognize by awards comparable to the Dykes Medal outstanding varieties in classes other than tall bearded.

HONORABLE MENTION

Honorable Mention is given to those new varieties that have been officially registered and introduced and is a requisite for eligibility for Award of Merit, Dykes Medal, Caparne Award, Morgan Award, and the A. I. S. Symposium. In 1950 a tall bearded variety must have received ten votes, other varieties five votes. In 1951 twelve votes will be required for tall bearded varieties, including oncocyclus, regelia, or hybrids between them. It is hoped that this will keep down the number of awards, which is already very large. Each judge may not recommend more than fourteen tall bearded irises for this honor.

CAPARNE AWARD

For the first time the list of Awards and Honors contains the Caparne Award for dwarf bearded irises. This award is given to the dwarf bearded variety that has received an Honorable Mention, and that receives the greatest number of votes. It must be recommended by at least seven judges.

MARY SWORDS DeBALLION AWARD

This award is given to such Louisiana iris species or varieties as are officially registered and which have been sent to the Test Garden of the Society for Louisiana Irises at Lafayette, La.

HIGH COMMENDATION

This honor is given to named or numbered varieties growing in gardens, but not introduced at the time of judging, and recommended by five or more accredited judges. Each judge may recommend not more than ten new varieties. This honor is a recommendation that the variety be registered and introduced.

ACCREDITED JUDGES

There are 428 accredited judges, slightly less than ten percent of the membership of the society. These judges are appointed by the president or chairman of the Awards Committee on the recommendation of the Regional Vice Presidents. There are 21 regions covering the United States and Canada as described in the inside of the back cover of the Bulletin. Each regional vice president annually recommends a list of accredited judges approximating ten percent of the membership of that region. The combined votes of these judges in the Awards Ballot and Symposium thus represent a cross section of the members of the Society and the different sections of the country.

HAROLD W. KNOWLTON, *Chairman*, Awards Committee

CONTRIBUTIONS OF SIR MICHAEL FOSTER TO IRIS BREEDING

L. F. RANDOLPH

The contributions of Sir Michael Foster in laying the foundation for the improvement of the garden iris many years ago have assumed added importance in the intervening years. The very extensive collection of species which he assembled in his garden at Shelford near Cambridge, England, from about 1870 to 1905 included representatives of every important section of the genus. He had in his garden, with one exception, all of the large flowered tetraploid forms of Eastern Europe and Asia Minor which contributed substantially to the revolutionary improvements of the tall bearded iris in later years. His published descriptions of the new species and the horticultural varieties which he produced were noteworthy achievements.

As a distinguished professor of psychology at Cambridge University from 1869 to 1907 Foster was a remarkable lecturer having an unusual skill in making illustrative sketches with few lines. Intimate association with Thomas Huxley, whom he succeeded as biological secretary of the Royal Society of London, undoubtedly influenced him greatly during the early, formative years of his career as a scientist. The establishment and maintenance of an iris garden containing large numbers of exotic species served as recreation for a man who was not only a careful observer of differences which distinguish species but also a critical student of their natural affinities.

The systematic attempts of Foster to hybridize iris species differing widely in their natural relationships were conducted on a more extensive scale than other similar experiments, either before or for many years after the period in which he lived.

From his publications it is apparent that Foster's interest in iris was not limited to his activities in maintaining a garden collection. Detailed descriptions of many of the plants that bloomed in his garden appeared in the "Gardeners Chronicle" and other journals during the more than 30 years that he maintained an active interest in iris. A booklet entitled "Bulbous Iris" was published by Foster in 1892, the same year that J. G. Baker's "Handbook of the Irideae" was published. The monographic treatment of the genus *Iris* by W. R. Dykes, which appeared 6 years after Foster's death in 1907, probably would not have been undertaken without his encouragement and assistance. Sir Arthur Hort, Caparne and many others who were frequent visitors to the Foster garden were similarly influenced to become actively interested in iris, which at that time was much less well known as a garden plant than it is at the present time.



The beautiful cream white *L. albicans* was widely distributed throughout southern Europe from very early times and was later brought to America where it is still one of the best early blooming Intermediates. Foster's skill as an artist and his scientific accuracy are clearly apparent in these pencil sketches.

The published records indicate that Foster had no more than a casual interest in the propagation and introduction of his hybrid seedlings as garden varieties. Very few of his named varieties were listed in catalogs until after his death in 1907, and from this it has been erroneously assumed that he did very little hybridizing. Specimens which he not infrequently named for lady friends, as MRS. GEORGE DARWIN, MRS. ALAN GRAY, MRS. H. DARWIN, LADY TILFORD, and others bearing in abbreviated form the names of the parental species combined in one word as IBPALL (*iberica* X *pallida*), MONSPUR (*monnieri* X *spuria*), PARSAM (*parisiana* X *sambucina*) were freely distributed to his many friends and garden visitors.

Irises raised from seed by Sir Michael Foster, of which a list was compiled by Mr. John C. Wister and published in A.I.S. Bulletin No. 3, June 1921, included approximately 50 named varieties. A majority of these were introduced by Wallace either in 1909 or in the 1913 edition of his catalog which listed altogether more than 400 species and varieties of iris.

The extent to which Foster was interested in hybridizing is revealed in his personal iris records now in the possession of the Linnean Society of London. The manner in which these records were rediscovered after having been apparently lost since they were used by W. R. Dykes in the preparation of "The Genus Iris" which was published in 1913, is reported and the contents of the notebooks are briefly described in the current issue of "The Iris Yearbook" of England.

While visiting the headquarters of the Linnean Society at Burlington House in Piccadilly, London to examine the herbarium specimens of iris named by Linneaus nearly 200 years ago it occurred to Mr. Savage, the curator of the Linnean collection and assistant secretary of the Linnean Society, that I might be interested in seeing Foster's iris records. Mr. Savage told me that these records had been in the possession of the Linnean Society for many years and that he did not recall when or how they were acquired.

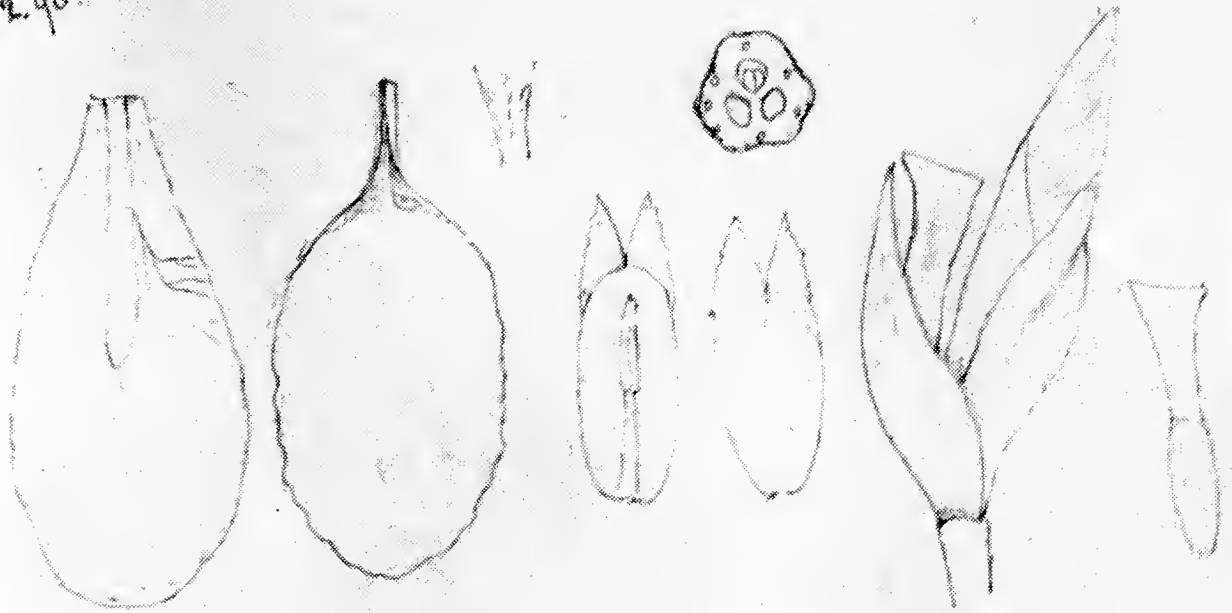
The very great scientific value of Foster's notebooks was at once apparent. They contain not only the original manuscript material of numerous published articles but also much interesting and valuable unpublished material, especially his crossing records about which very little has been written. Unfortunately, it was possible for me to spend only a limited amount of time in the examination of the notebooks during my brief stay in London. The following account is scarcely more than an enumeration of certain items which interested me especially. These notebooks are deserving of more comprehensive analysis; in fact, they should be published in order to make the information they contain more generally available.

The personal scientific records of Sir Michael Foster as they were

88.5

From M.L. gathered by Sintenis in cemetery at Mardin
Ordinary pogonins rhizome.

June 2. 90.



all - claw greenish yellow ground with reddish brown veins. Blade greenish yellow with purple blotches rather finely - Beards yellow at base, white in front, terminating in long hardly conspicuous ridge very green on under surface.
 Std. creamy white, with brown veins on claw - edge crinkled - a single row of sparse hairs on claw.
 style - with rounded pointed ends - no ridge on back - Pollen rods abundant.
 Ovary cylindrical - or rounded hexagonal with 6 shallow grooves.
 Sp. V. green - scarious at tip only - Keels somewhat inflated pointed.
 Not in good condition being too dry - exceeding fragrant - Lily valley.
 Seems a variety of *Kashmiriana* identical with form from Persia see II p. 71. - but more distinctly yellow.
 seeds smooth pyramidal - more like *chamissoi* than *Savini*, wholly unlike *pallida*.

One of the several forms of *I. kashmiriana* which Foster had in his garden. It is from this species that KASHMIR WHITE and from it as a parent most of the dominate white tetraploid tall bearded irises originated.

handed to me by Mr. Savage in June 1950 consisted of 10 large notebooks, most of them filled with nearly 100 pages of notations, descriptions and sketches of irises that bloomed in his own garden, records of crosses and inserts of dried specimens of blooms carefully pressed between pieces of blotting paper. There were also 2 smaller pocket notebooks containing acquisition records, and in addition a sketch book of pencil drawings showing the growth habit and individual parts of

flowers of various irises in natural size. The notebooks are numbered in chronological order. Their contents are arranged in an orderly and systematic fashion with pagination and indexes which Foster had prepared.

The meticulous care with which Foster kept his iris records is apparent in the photographs of pages from his notebooks which are here reproduced with the kind permission of the Linnean Society and the assistance of Dr. and Mrs. G. H. M. Lawrence. On these selected pages are recorded descriptive notes and sketches relating to *Iris albicans*, *trojana*, AMAS, which Foster considered to be a variety of *I. germanica*, a form of *I. kashmiriana* with white flowers and a page from one of the crossing books which records briefly failures to obtain viable seed. In reproducing these pages they have been reduced to approximately one half of their original size.

The first three notebooks contain descriptions and sketches of approximately 180 species of iris which had been acquired by Foster up to 1884. Sources from which plants were obtained are listed in the back of Book 1. Included in these lists are the names of the well known firm of Haage and Schmidt, Ware, Barr and Dr. Regel of Saint Petersburg, Russia. Later acquisitions were obtained from many additional sources. Book 5 is labeled on the front cover "New Irises 1884, '85, '86, '87, '88" and contains descriptions of 53 species and varieties of which *I. cypriana*, *trojana* and AMAS (*germanica* var. *amas* according to Foster) deserve special mention. These three species were later to appear in the parentages of many of our modern tetraploid tall bearded garden iris.

From time to time questions have arisen as to the validity or correct identification of these and other species which Foster had in his garden. The *I. Ricardi* which the French hybridizer Denis used extensively in crosses was considered by him and also by Foster to be a variety of *I. cypriana*; but Dykes considered it to be synonymous with *I. mesopotamica*. It is also uncertain whether the *I. mesopotamica* which was used so effectively in crosses by William Mohr in California was a form of *cypriana*, or very similar to *Ricardi*, or something entirely different (cf. A.I.S. Bulletin 2: pp. 27-28, 1921 and The Iris Society (England) Bulletin 6: pp. 41-46, 1928).

The availability of Foster's original records should clarify at least some of this confusion. He entered in his notebooks very detailed descriptions of species as they flowered in his garden—descriptions that utilized the terminology and otherwise meet the exacting requirements of the professional taxonomist. Sketches of flower parts and other structures add appreciably to the completeness of the descriptions.

The following entry which appears on p. 26 of Book 4 under the caption "*I. cypriana*" obviously was written at the time this iris first bloomed in Foster's garden, apparently in 1886.

Tall blue iris growing in Cyprus—collected Mrs. Kenyon—from Kew Jan. 16. About 6 rhizomes—rather broader than A (refers to a previous entry, L.F.R.) not broad enough for *pallida*—probably *I. germanica*.

Flowered in greenhouse May 25——. Leaves glaucous, blue green like *pallida* but not so broad. Scape massive, compressed sp. v. very navicular short, green, pale, very slightly scarious and flushed at apex and margins. Bracts similarly navicular.

Flowered May 30. Falls 4 x 2" at broadest which is near end of lamina, i.e., falls spathulate. Lamina lilac with inconspicuous deeper veins—claw conspicuously white with greenish brown, or brown purple, strong veins extending onto lamina but ending abruptly at a transverse straight line—claw under surface dotted.

St'ds 3+ x 2—suddenly narrowed to claw, lighter lilac with inconspicuous veins, inside of claw marked like fall with strong brown veins. Edge of lamina serrate.

Styles still lighter lilac than st'ds except along median edge, crests broad, divergent serrate. Tube about as long or longer than ovary—green.

Beard of fall reaching far beyond style, white at tip but orange under style.

Sep. 1. Ripe capsule very pointed, seeds not numerous. A long ellipse like *germanica*, not like *pallida*.

In 1888 the description of *I. cypriana* as a new species by Baker and Foster appeared in "The Gardeners Chronicle," series 3, volume 4, p. 182. The published article contains many of the same words and phrases from Foster's notebook that described the distinguishing characteristics of this iris; the two descriptions supplement each other in a most interesting manner.

The records of interspecific crosses made by Foster from 1878 to 1901 are a very valuable source of information for iris hybridizers as well as for geneticists and taxonomists. These records reveal that a systematic attempt was made to test the crossability of a very large number of iris species belonging to the same and different sections of the genus. The parents used in making crosses were cited in an orderly manner, the seed parent being listed first. Failures as well as successful crosses were recorded, together with the number of flowers pollinated and the number of pods and seeds, if any, that were harvested. Often a particular species was tested as a seed parent in crosses with several different species, as shown in the accompanying photograph of a page from his crossing book.

The first crosses made by Foster, in the spring of 1878 from June 13 to 25, included various American species and other beardless iris such as *I. pseudacorus*, *versicolor* and *ochroleuca*, according to the lists appearing in the back of Notebook 1. The records of crosses made from 1882 to 1901 filled two additional notebooks, numbered 6 and 12.

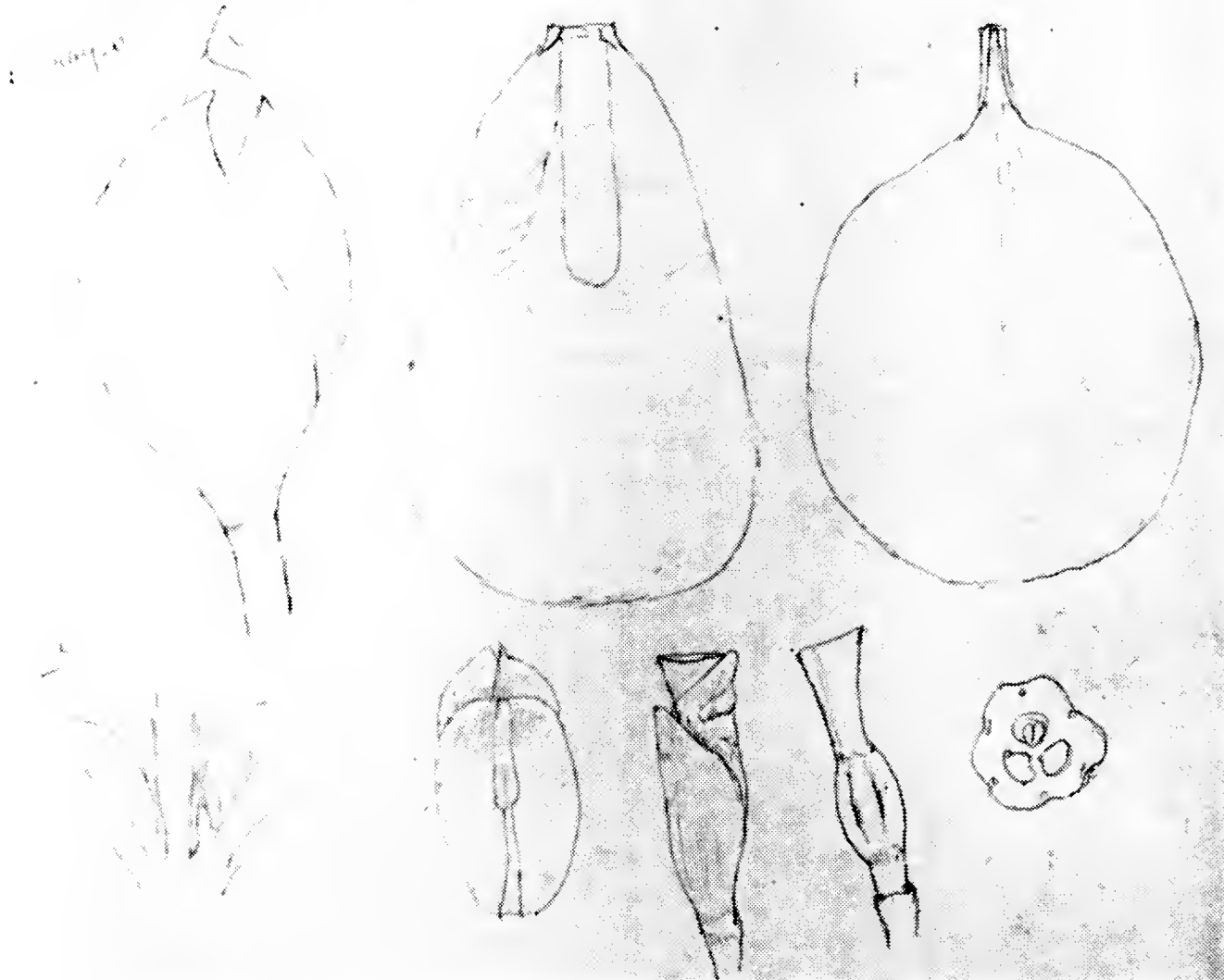
In 1882 Foster attempted many intercrosses between species of Dwarf, Intermediate and diploid Tall Bearded species. His results are of sufficient interest even today to warrant careful study by hybridizers interested in improving the Dwarfs and Intermediates. The following entries

germanica var Amas.

85. P

39

Rhizome of broad leaved pogonia from Amasia - polled in
6 pots - 6 remains in nursery - planted out
no like? tollida



Sketches showing the form of various parts of the flower of AMAS as it bloomed in Foster's garden May 20, 1887. This iris probably was one parent of DOMINION and appears in the parentages of SOUVENIR DE MME. GAUDICHAU, KING TUT and many other famous varieties.

were made in 1882 and have been transcribed in the same abbreviated form in which they appear in Book 1.

I. pumila suaveolens Ware X *Statellae*—2 fls, both failed.

Statellae No. 1 small plant X *pumila affinis* bis—7 good + 2 imperfect seeds gathered Aug. 8, sown Aug. 15.

Statellae No. 2 X *pumila affinis* bis same stem, both swollen, full.

1. Gathered Aug. 11, sown Aug. 16. 7 good, 1 med., 1 sm.

2. Gathered Aug. 14, sown Aug. 19. 7 good, 2 sm.

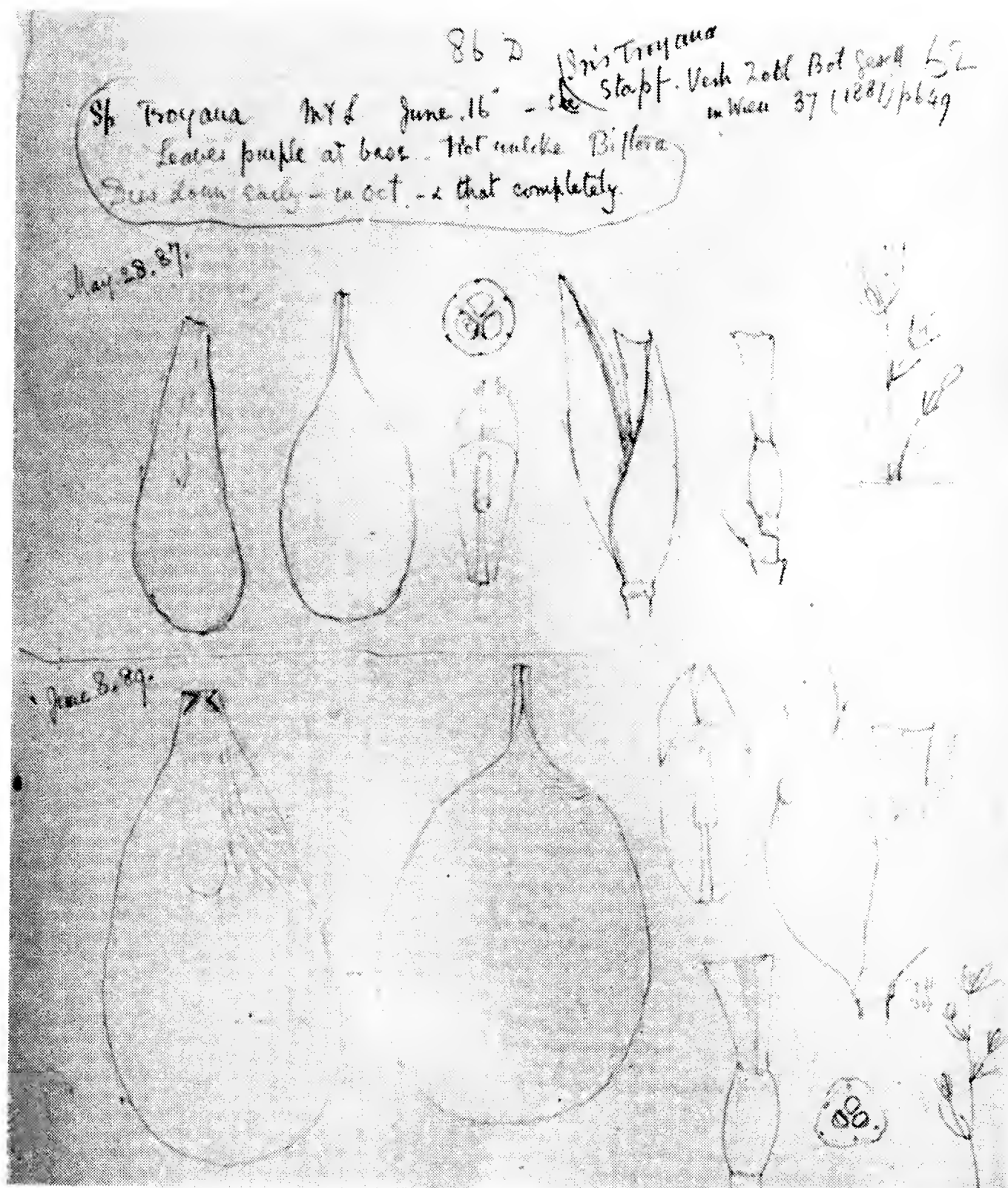
I. mellita X *pumila affinis*, well swollen, dehisced.

Gathered July 28. 4 fair-sized and 1 small sown Aug. 2 in 60.

I. mandralisca X *pumila affinis*, well swollen.

Gathered Aug. 11. 4 fair, 1 sm., 3 v. sm. not thoroughly good. flattened.

X *Bartoni* failed.



I. trojana from Eastern Mediterranean area was one of the most important basic tetraploid species from which modern garden iris originated.

X tectorum not fully developed. July 22 gathered a few absolutely imperfect seeds. Cengialti X Queen of May

21 good, small rounded wrinkled seeds, sown Aug. 21 in 36 as Ceng. X QM. Brought into heat Jan. 15. Starting Jan. 22. Jan. 28, 2 potted off, 29, 6 more—8 in all. Flowered May 1884—see book.

Variegata X *pallida*, thoroughly well swollen, dehisced and gathered Sept. 10; some Sept. 21.

Plicata X *variegata*—5 pods mixed together, 264 seeds in all sown in large pan Oct. 1 as Pl. V.

1st started Feb. 16, '83—6 planted in , 9 in semicircle. A large number planted out in bed at end of long border, also by side of this bed for exp. plot—a few in E. nursery.

The magnitude of Foster's activities as a hybridizer is indicated by the fact that in 1882 alone he made more than 100 different crosses. Book 6 is filled with records of crosses made before 1884; those for 1885 and 1886 are to be found in Book 7 and in Book 12 are listed the crosses made from 1887 to 1901.

Descriptions of seedlings which were obtained from many of the crosses are to be found in Books 7 and 8. They include notes on type of foliage, height and branching of the scape, color and shape of blooms, fragrance, etc.

The first seedling descriptions entered in Book 7 were from a cross of *I. variegata* with "*germ. napalensis*" and *pallida*, made in 1880. Seeds sown in October, 1880 started in January 1881 and the first bloom appeared on May 20, 1882. Some of the seedlings resembled *neglecta*, others tended towards *squalens*. Another successful cross made in 1880 is of special interest because very few crosses of this sort have been made in the intervening years. This cross involved the dwarf *I. balkana* as seed parent and the diploid tall Cengialti. Foster made the following notations on this cross: "Fertilized 1880. 2 germinated in 1881, 15 in 1882. Seedling No. 1 flowered April 1883 in pot in greenhouse. Scape with flower 11 inches—flower white. No. 2 purple." Five of 15 seedlings obtained from this cross were white or creamy white, 2 were blue tinted whites and there were 2 purple seedlings. Having demonstrated that dwarfs could be crossed with the diploid tall it is noteworthy that most if not all of the Intermediates produced later by Caparne, who frequently visited Foster's garden and must have been familiar with his results, were from combinations of the tetraploid Talls with the Dwarfs.

The breeding potentialities inherent in *I. trojana*, *cypriana* and other large flowered species from the East were recognized by Foster at an early date before Vilmorin, Denis, Bliss and others began to use them extensively. It is recorded in Foster's notes (Book 8, p. 1) that seedlings of sambucina type with the foliage of *trojana* were obtained from a cross of *trojana* X *variegata* which was made in 1890.

Other noteworthy combinations achieved by Foster included *Oncocyclus* species crossed with Tall Bearded diploids and tetraploids. *I. iberica* X *trojana* produced a light blue purple seedling of fine form about 30 centimeters in height from a cross made in 1893, and in the same year *iberica* was crossed with *pallida* to produce the seedling later named IBPALL. PARSAM (*paradoxa* X *SAMBUCNIA*) and MONSPUR (*monnieri* X *spuria*) are other examples of very wide crosses.

The most important contribution to iris breeding made by Foster undoubtedly was the production of the tetraploid Tall Bearded varieties CATERINA, SHELFORD CHIEFTAN, LADY FOSTER, MISS WILLMOTT and KASHMIR WHITE which were later used very exten-

Germ orient. (Persia)x *Susiana* - f.x *florentina* fx *illyrica* 3. 2 s. -will swell - 1 gath. Aug 7 not a single seed.
2. gath. Aug 15 not a single seed -Florentinax *Sus.* fx *iber.* fx *germ. orient.* fx *australis* - fx *balk. Ceng* no 5 1 s. - some went off no seedx *balk Ceng* - 12 fx *illyr.* fx *Ceng* fIllyricax *Susiana* - thread 4.4. 5 - a gath. Aug 12. 6 v small gath Aug 1
c gath Aug 19. d Aug 31x *cauvrac* - fx *lutescens* - fx *Barloni* bis 1. f. 1 s. - gath. Sep 12.Maudraliscaex *Florent.* f.Germ orient. Mxh.x *Cengalis* - f

A page from Foster's crossing book in which were recorded many failures as well as successes in his efforts to obtain seed from various unrelated species.

sively for breeding purposes both in England and the United States. The parentage of the three first named varieties is reported in the Check List and elsewhere to be *cypriana* X *pallida*. Since most tetraploids which have come directly from intercrosses of diploids and tetraploids have originated from matings in which the diploid rather than the tetraploid was the seed parent it has seemed to me more likely that a diploid *pallida* was the seed parent rather than the pollen parent

in this particular cross. Foster's crossing records were searched for confirmation of this without finding the desired entry.

The large white irises, MISS WILLMOTT and KASHMIR WHITE, assumed very great importance in later breeding work. They were the first tetraploid white varieties of the dominant type, which when crossed with blue purples regularly produce at least some white seedlings in the next generation. Furthermore, one or both parents of such dominant white irises must have been a white iris.

The parentage of MISS WILLMOTT and KASHMIR WHITE has been in doubt for many years. Sir Arthur Hort, a personal friend of Foster's who frequently visited his garden, reported in a very informative article about Sir Michael Foster and his irises published in 1921 in A.I.S. Bulletin No. 2, that MISS WILLMOTT was given to him by Foster as "Kashmirid, being a seedling of *Kashmiriana*." Elsewhere in this same article is the statement that "Miss Willmott had already been superseded by another *Kashmiriana* seedling of Foster's, Kashmir White." The famous French hybridizer, Denis, was of the opinion that MISS WILLMOTT and KASHMIR WHITE were from a cross of *cypriana* and *pallida*, and he actually produced white seedlings from this cross which he said closely resembled Foster's whites. In referring to Foster's two varieties as a great advance on any garden iris previously grown, Colonel F. C. Stern stated in "The Iris Yearbook" for 1946, p. 69 that Foster believed they were a cross between *I. pallida dalmatica* and *kashmiriana*. In a very excellent article on the origin of modern white iris published in A.I.S. Bulletin No. 87, 1942, Geddes Douglas favored Denis' explanation of the origin of MISS WILLMOTT and KASHMIR WHITE and in tracing the origin of the many very beautiful white irises of the present day showed that most of them came from KASHMIR WHITE by way of ARGENTINA and PURISSIMA or its sister seedlings.

Since the breeding behavior of these white irises has shown conclusively that they are all dominant whites from which many fine blues have been segregated, which would not have been possible if they were recessive whites, their *cypriana* X *pallida* origin may be dismissed as an impossibility. The whites obtained from this cross by Denis must have been recessive whites since both parents were colored.

It was hoped that a search of Foster's crossing records or his seedling notes would reveal entries giving the parentage of KASHMIR WHITE and MISS WILLMOTT. No mention of either of these varietal names was found. But from the acquisition records it was apparent that Foster had in his garden at least 3 forms of *I. kashmiriana*, including one from Max Leichtlin of Baden Baden, Germany which was collected by Sintenis in a garden at Mardin (see photographic reproduction of this entry, Book 5, p. 1). Another with white flowers was from Persia,

as recorded in Book 2, p. 75, and a third form with blue purple flowers was received from Dr. Shreve at Poo Kunar, India as recorded in Book 5, p. 42. The parent of KASHMIR WHITE must have been a white flowered form of the species and it most probably was a tetraploid form rather than the 44-chromosome form examined cytologically by Simonet, since both MISS WILLMOTT and KASHMIR WHITE are tetraploids with two and three extra chromosomes according to counts made in my laboratory.

The scientific value of the personal iris records of Sir Michael Foster is readily apparent to anyone familiar with the history of iris breeding during the past half century. A tremendous impetus to progress in the improvement of the garden resulted from the activities of this great man.

Robin's



Roost

It is best to open pods as soon as they begin to crack, and shell out the seed; be sure they are separated, to prevent mold. Mold doesn't really hurt seed but might slow up germination. If seed get mold, soak them in Semesan and dry thoroughly before storing. If the stalk was broken off before the seed was entirely ripe, the seed pod can be brought indoors and ripened, providing it was far enough along to be fully formed and full sized. One lady wrote that she had ripened pods from stalks still in bloom, by using vitamin B₁ in the water; others recommend putting the stalks in sugar water. For me, they tend to rot in water, so I either lay them on the sill of a north window, or stand them in a large vase, without water. Sometimes they can be stuck upright in the soil beside the parent plant and ripened there, if it is not where the sun beats down on it all day long. A seed pod ripened thus is inclined to be more chaffy than when ripened on the plant, unless it was full sized at the time the stalk was broken

off. But firm plump seed ripened indoors, seem to grow as well as if ripened in the natural way, or at least, such has been my experience.

• •

For those in the North, who are afraid to try growing the "tender" kinds, try mulching things like Present and Purissima with excelsior, with a peach basket or old orange crate turned upside down over it to hold it in place, and maybe a rock on top of that so the wind won't blow it off. Leave the excelsior on long enough in the spring to hold back buds that might freeze on very early iris, such as San Gabriel and some of the oncobreds.—TELL MUHLESTEIN, Utah.

I pick most of my stalks to ripen indoors; it saves me a lot of time, as otherwise I'd have to go over my entire planting every day to pick ripening pods, and they take up too much terri-

tory for that! In hot dry weather pods often fail to form because the stigma is so dry that the pollen cannot stick to it; the same would hold true of very windy weather, where the stigma dries before the pollen has had time to take effect.—TOM CRAIG, Calif.

I never plant my seed before late October or early November, then water well in the spring, so the seed bed never dries out. I transplant as soon as possible with plenty of water and get a high percentage of first year bloom. I'm told that in warmer regions they will bloom in nine to eighteen months, almost 100%, from the time of sowing, but up here it takes from twelve to twenty-four months.—MRS. MELVINA SUITER, Idaho.

I think planting in flats is better than in the open ground for if the seed don't germinate the first year, you're not holding up precious ground. If you plant in the open you can't use the ground for at least another year for fear some will germinate the second year. Also, it is easier to water a flat, and keep it suitably moist, than it is to water a long row. A long row is apt to get dry somewhere, no matter how carefully you watch it.—MRS. MELVA MOON, Calif.

The weather here is usually just right at blooming time and flowers often last a week or more for me. Snow Flurry is said to have no pollen, but I've often found quite a bit of it after the 5th day, though I didn't discover the fact until it was too late to use it as everything suitable was gone by then. I used poultry manure mixed with sawdust on my iris last fall, with lime this spring as usual. Now my iris leaves are from two to four feet long, and look more like desert things from Arizona or California than like iris and the flowers were in proportion. Snow Flurry was 52 inches high, and Miss California took the record with 58

inches. Hundreds of the blooms were eight inches or more across, and The Red Douglas was nine inches in length. All of them were very large, even those on shorter stems, such as sent up by Gudrun and Sable.—HAROLD ODLE, Mont.

I plant seed in November or December, in flats, using half soil and half Vermiculite. Line the bottom of the box with peatmoss to help keep the soil above it from drying out. In the spring place the flats of seed outside and see that there is no excess dryness.—MRS. VALENTINE FRAZEE, Utah.

I once read that one can cut rhizomes in small pieces, dusting each with sulphur on the cut parts so they won't mold or rot. Then plant them in flats with equal parts of sand and peat, with the top exposed so small "nubbins" will appear along the sides and eventually make fans. I've never tried it, so can't say if it is true or not.—MRS. BIRDIE PDAVICH, Wash.

I transplanted some of my seedlings last year about the last of May when they were around three inches high. About half of the seedlings had to wait until late July, as there was no room in the garden for them before that time. The ones moved early bloomed this year very nicely. Had it not been for the unseasonably cold spring that froze so many buds while still in the fan, they would have bloomed from 75 to 90%, judging from indications. Those set almost 2 months later didn't bloom over 25%, and most of these were very low, many of them right down in the fans. Very few of the first ones bloomed in the fans, having apparently had time enough to have the strength to push the buds up where they belonged.

I have found that very often one can save a seedling (or a new named variety for that matter) that tried to bloom without increase. As soon as you notice the bloom stalk, break it off

right at the ground, against the rhizome if possible. If it is still small, very little set-back is caused, and the plant will usually go ahead and form at least one offset. If the stalk has become taller, it may be necessary to cut the foliage back severely also, and even mound the soil over the rhizome a little. It doesn't grow as fast as a normal one, and may take two or three years before it is strong enough to bloom again.—MRS. WILMA VALLETTE, Idaho.

When working with things as far from the oncos as Ormaco, I use them only as seed parents. I've thrown out all the Mohr seedlings where they were used as pollen parents, as I've found that none of them show the least sign of onco tendencies except when used as pod parents, with a very few exceptions. For pollen parents to get these onco characteristics I'd advise (1) Capitola for size, form and branching; (2) Ib-Mac for pattern and form; (3) Joppa Parrot for odd colors; and after these as pod parents (4) William Mohr (hard as it is to get it to mature its seed), and Morning Blue (not up to several seedlings I have of the same pedigree, but it sets seed easily and it germinates well); (5) Peg Dabagh (rather hard to set seed), Blue Elegance, Suez, Elmohr, Lady Mohr (I've had some rather promising seedlings from these two, despite their generally accepted inability to produce anything onco-ish), Ormohr, Grace Mohr, Top Hilly and Jocund. Heigho is quite fertile too, and promises to be a good parent. Joppa Parrot, crossed with Mt. Washington and its derivatives, gave me several very odd greenish tones; and with Gay Senorita, a dark olive-green, veined red, and sometimes splashed brighter green. Sheriffa sets seed fairly easily, but I never heard of anyone getting them to come up. Ib-Mac is very fertile and will produce pods on almost anything, but its seed are a little hard to germinate. Capitola, less fertile, gives seed that come up better.—TOM CRAIG, Calif.

I'm told that Minnie Colquitt and several other of the Sass plicatas will give plicatas in the first generation, having been bred so long in that line that plicatism has become dominant in them. Also that there seems to be some sort of inherent tie-up between intensity of color and small size, with low stature as in Black Forest and Jasper Agate.—MRS. ZEH DENNIS, JR., N. J.

I used some wood ashes in the soil around my iris this year with bonemeal and lime. I put a shovelful of well rotted barnyard manure in the bottom of each hole I dug to set the iris in, covered that with a shovelful of soil, then mounded the dirt up, to set the rhizome on top with the roots spread out around the cone of soil. After they were planted I put the ashes and other things around them, scratching them in. I wouldn't know if this is what made my plants do so well and increase so fast, but I do think it helped a lot.—MRS. LUCILLE CONRAD, Idaho.

Tell (Muhlestein) is not the only one who values Golden Eagle as a breeder. He swears by it, because it gives good substance to its offspring and clears up muddy colors as well as giving good pinks when bred with those of that color. Schirmer and Lyell value it too, saying that it gives good size. Fr. David Kinish tells me that he likes Mary Clotilde as a parent, since it gives such nice smooth hafts although the seedlings are only fair sized. He says too, that Old Parchment is good to use with red seedlings, to clear up veined hafts and give clean color and good substance. Mary Clotilde is very fragrant too and many of its offspring inherit this desirable trait. Sylvia Murray also is good about passing fragrance on to its children.—W. M. KEELING, Nebr.

I wonder how many of you use Transplantone when moving your seedlings? Those that germinated last spring, that

I used it with, have even outgrown new rhizomes, some of them from places that always send huge ones, too. In fact, most of those brand new seedlings have from six to eight sideshoots so they look like 2 year clumps. I truly believe Transplantone did it, for moving did not retard their growth a bit, and they never lagged a bit afterwards.—MRS. MARGIE SMITH, Texas.

My soil needed a thorough overhaul and renovation, so to date I've used a lot of straw, rotten manure, some commercial fertilizer, and all the wood ashes I can lay my hands on. I've become a regular alley cat. If a trash fire begins to smoke somewhere in the neighborhood, I'm on the spot looking for ashes. Nothing can be better in combination with fertilizer. The Plain Dirt Gardener says he uses coal ashes, but my experience with them hasn't been too successful; plants will wilt when the hot sun strikes them, though they do loosen heavy soils better than wood ashes do, maybe because the last are soluble so quickly and leach out.—MISS ADDIE BLAKESLEE, Idaho.

If you use coal ashes, be sure to screen them well, to get only the fine dust. The potash is good in wood ashes, but the carbon isn't. I'm trying some old, thoroughly rotted horse manure, in hopes that it will work; always use lime with manure though. I like superphosphate in bonemeal. I use lots of compost and well rotted manure to prepare the soil before planting, and also put it between the rows and cultivate it in well—JOSEPH BOTTS, Ill.

When Tom Lyell, of Auburn, remakes a border, he spades it all up, then puts in peatmoss which is spaded in and allowed to settle. Next a load of rich rotten cow manure is spaded in and

allowed to settle, then in the fall he hauls a wagonload of leaves and spades them under, and lets the ground lie rough all winter. In the spring it is worked in ridges, split, and left standing, cultivating it all summer so there are no weeds. By early fall he throws up his raised beds and plants his iris and how they do grow!—MRS. EDITHA HUDSON, Nebr.

I've found an old Bull Durham tobacco sack, tied over the pods, keeps off the Verbena moth, whose young delight in ruining my very best crosses. Cellophane sacks would do the same, but on hot days they might tend to cook the young pods, while the cloth sacks do not. I do not use superphosphate; I believe raw phosphate is far the best. The percentage is greater and it lasts for years, while the superphosphate, being water soluble, is soon gone. Also one can get an over-supply if applied too heavily, or if it happens to be labeled wrong, with a higher percentage of it than is indicated.—JOHN J. OHLS, Kansas.

I divide my new plants all the time and sometimes, in the past it didn't work out too well. Now I have invented a method of doing it which works fine for me. When I am cutting the increase off a new plant without digging it I remove the dirt as carefully as I can, to see where to do my cutting in order to make as small and clean a cut as possible. After taking the division out, I cover all the cut surface with gypsum before putting back the soil. It is said to be a good disinfectant for rot, so I thought why not try it before the rot shows up? In fact, when I set my divisions or old clumps, I always dip the cut end in gypsum. That may not be the reason, but since I began doing it, I've never had any summer rot and I don't want it.—MRS. RALPH NELSON, Idaho.

Varietal Comments

The following varietal comments have been extracted, with the permission of the author, Harry Randall, C.B.E., from an article entitled "America Revisited" which appears in the latest issue of the Year Book of the English Iris Society. Because of the lateness of the iris season in America, and the unfavorable weather conditions which prevailed in the spring of 1950, Mr. Randall did not see many of the latest American introductions, and he purposely refrained from commenting upon unnamed seedlings however attractive they were. It must be remembered that his comments were made chiefly for the benefit of iris-growers in England.
(EDITOR'S NOTE.)

Admiration—A large flaring yellow which has good substance and branching. Perhaps too hot for those who like their colours cool, but it makes a fine clump in the border.

Amandine—Knowing that Mrs. Anley likes creamy-yellows—as I do myself—I looked round for some new ones. However, there seemed to be nothing better than Amandine and Desert Song, both of which are now grown in England; but Illinois might prove a very useful addition to this class.

Argus Pheasant—The highest praise can be given to this smooth brown iris. It seems to have every virtue, and I stake my reputation that it will be eagerly sought after in this country. It might be the first brown iris to win the Dykes Medal since Copper Lustre did so in 1938.

Augusta—Although, as an individual flower, this did not particularly please me, I thought it very effective as a clump. Brown standards with violet and brown falls.

Azure Skies—A lavender-blue which has been rather neglected in England, probably because plants are not available. Its ruffling and sprightliness can be one of the main attractions of the iris garden—and it has the advantage of being inexpensive.

Barbara Adams—I had never heard of this iris before, and it has had no award; but of its kind it was one of the best I saw. Short stem, bluish-purple flowers with good form and flaring falls. Another variety which can be bought without breaking the bank.

Cherie—Not the pinkest or the tallest of the pinks, but when grown well it is one of the most pleasing of all irises. Its fine shape and clear colouring will probably make it one of the standard varieties of the future. It has produced some promising seedlings.

Cloth of Gold—An outstanding rich yellow which is now widely grown in America. It would be popular in England if only there were enough roots to go round. In the same colour group as Admiration. A seedling from Golden Hind but bigger, tougher and finer than its parent.

Danube Wave—A ruffled flaring medium blue similar to Chivalry except that it has more blue in the beard. Both varieties are established favourites in America. We can now see them growing near to each other in the Wisley Trial Ground.

Dreamcastle—No longer new, and rather striated; but its bright and deep orchid-pink colouring is a notable feature of any iris-planting. Its sister seedling, Harriet Thoreau, is in the same class and would be an excellent substitute.

El Paso—Another brown which pleased me immensely. Has wide petals and semi-flaring falls. Even on a dull day it was "alive" and in the Argus Pheasant class. Comparison between these varieties will be interesting when they can be seen growing together.

Fair Elaine—This had the Award of Merit in 1940 and must now be counted one of the older members of the family. Its hafts are narrower than we see in modern varieties; but what a gay and beautiful clump it makes! Its white and bright yellow colouring is finer than that of Pinnacle, and its raiser, Professor Mitchell, must often have gazed at it with becoming pride.

Far Hills—The sea-shell and tangerine-bearded pinks have not lessened the need for orchid-pinks in the iris border. I doubt if Far Hills will create much stir on the show bench, but in the garden it will provide a striking and attractive splash of colour.

General Patton—One of the new copper-browns which appealed to me with its warm colour and ruffled, broad petals. Dr. Kleinsorge has given us a whole range of these browns, and I hesitate to say which are the best.

Goldbeater—A smooth bright yellow—not gold. At Nashville it would not grow to its normal height of 36 inches, but it was none the less attractive. My attention was drawn to the buds, which have very vivid colouring.

Gold Sovereign—The deepest pure yellow I have ever seen, and nicely ruffled. As striking in colour as its pollen parent Rocket, without the darker, almost brownish, overlay of that variety. The best thing I have seen from its seed parent, Ola Kala. It ought to be good with such parentage!

Good News—Has been admired at Westminster and in English gardens. I noted its colour as vivid golden-brown but in America it is described as mustard-gold. It will make a welcome addition to any iris collection, and the price is growing more modest every year.

Green Pastures—A dull flower with very little green in its make-up. An unfortunate use of a good Biblical name—I could suggest several other names much more appropriate!

Helen McKenzie—Most people like white irises, and this is said to be the whitest of them all. A beautiful flower, ruffled and shapely, which

will have a wide appeal. From the late Dr. Graves, who gave us Helen McGregor and Lady Boscawen.

Indiana Night—Is an inexpensive, tall-growing, purple iris which has considerable garden value. It is surprising to me how these nearly black irises can improve the iris border. Indiana Night is similar to but slightly larger than the English variety, Black Michael.

Master Charles—Has been in commerce for 7 years and is still supreme—I almost used that horrid word “tops”!—in its colour class. Tall, well branched, and mulberry-purple in colour.

Melody Lane—This and Twilight Sky were the deepest pinks I saw in America. I must add that Pink Formal, the much praised new pink, was not in bloom in the gardens I visited. Melody Lane has a shade of apricot and is taller than many pinks. I liked it.

Mimosa Gold—Here is a soft yellow of good shape and vigorous habit that most gardeners would love to have. I have not seen it on the show-bench, but in the garden it is superb, and I warmly commend it.

Miogem—This is not a smooth flower, and it has some noticeable striation; but it grows sturdily, and its unusual fuchsia-red and rose colouring make it a distinct and attractive clump in the garden. It made a glorious show at Nashville in spite of the frosts.

Mt. McKinley—This amoena disappointed me. Like many other new amoenas it shows little improvement on one of its parents, Wabash, and I wondered why it had been introduced.

New Era—Intended to be an addition to the family of white and yellow amoenas, but to me it looked pathetic. The standards are not quite white, and the dog-eared, veined falls are not quite yellow. Should perhaps be pronounced New Error.

New Snow—For ruffling and toughness of texture this is still unsurpassed. From its seed parent, Snow Flurry, it inherits an occasional tendency to top-branching, but in a garden this is scarcely noticeable and is no great disadvantage. It is itself a fine parent and it will be grown, admired and coveted for many years to come.

Pagan Gold—I unblushingly admit that I like large yellows of fairly strong colouring. This variety, which is large and strong and also has good branching, is certain to win many admirers.

Pagan Princess—This rosy, almost purplish pink is unlikely to win the Dykes Medal, and I would not include it in a list of the 50 best varieties. But I have seen some of the interesting seedlings it produces, and I commend it to the adventurous hybridizer.

Pierre Menard—A medium blue which has as pure a colour as any that I have seen. It has a fine shape, but on the frost-bitten plants at Nashville the flowers lost their form on the second and third days of blooming. With its sister seedling, Cahokia, this variety will probably

become widely grown and very popular.

Pinnacle—Is perhaps the best introduction we have had from New Zealand; but in spite of the praise lavished upon it I have to express my disappointment. The standards are beautifully white, but the yellowish falls have neither good shape nor clear colouring. It is, however, a notable “break” and should be very useful in breeding. I may add that I should have been proud to raise it.

Pretty Quadroon—I really “fell” for the new browns. This one is lighter than Argus Pheasant, but it may be equally desirable. I shall not be content until I have both varieties growing vigorously in what the Americans would call my “backyard.”

Purple Moor—Another inexpensive variety which, as far as I am concerned, has been hiding its light under a bushel. It is a velvety purple of good shape—a type of flower which is greatly needed in the iris border.

Radiation—Mrs. Nesmith describes this as David Hall’s finest introduction; and I would not seriously differ from her. It is a soft orchid-pink with a bright tangerine beard; and the petals have good substance and a glistening surface. When you have it you will probably describe it as an indispensable.

Rumba Rose—A most unusual near-amoenia with soft pinkish-lavender standards and rose-red falls. A seedling from Wabash and Fair Elaine which appealed to me; but I am still wondering why it was given such a name by a raiser who usually excels in the naming of her seedlings.

Star Shine—Wherever I saw this iris it put on its “Sunday best” for me—upright stems and well spaced flowers of exceptionally flaring form. Its soft colouring needs an artist to describe, but I noted it as pearly-cream. In my own garden I crossed it with Truly Yours, and it will be interesting to see the results.

Staten Island—Is still the best of its kind. Tall and late-flowering but with the pronounced striation which characterizes all variegatas. I have crossed it with Red Torch in the fond hope of producing a variegata with clean hafts.

Sultan’s Robe—A combination of red, rose and violet which is also difficult to describe. Its heavy striation is a drawback, but in California it has been used successfully as a parent. I was not greatly attracted by it.

Sunset Blaze—I am told that this golden-flame variety has brighter colouring in Oregon than elsewhere. In a garden “down south” it had plenty of colour, and I thought it first-class. It won the President’s Cup in America last year, and that is no trifling honour to gain.

Truly Yours—Is a yellow and white variety, large and beautifully ruffled, which grows well on both sides of the Atlantic. It comes from Zantha and is at present one of the irises most sought after in America.

An ideal Christmas or wedding present for any iris-grower!

Twilight Sky—A seedling from Pink Cameo which has excellent form and more depth of colour than most pinks. Described to me by an eminent iris judge as the finest pink in U.S.A. If it grows well in England, and to its proper height, we shall like it.

Vice Regal—Our friend from Canada grows as well in America as it does in England. In the red-purple colour-class I doubt if it has any superior. Should be grown at the front of the border, being under 3 feet in height.

Voodoo—With brown standards and blackish crimson falls, this unusual iris is a little too sombre for my liking; but as a chaperone to gaily-coloured varieties it might be very worthwhile.

—HARRY J. RANDALL, Eng.

ANNOUNCEMENT

(*Attention Shutterbugs*)

We have Round Robins about several phases of iris activities. There is a Hybridizing Robin, a Culture Robin, a Round Robin of general interest, a Siberian Robin and Robins concerning other specialized branches of the iris family. Would you like to belong to a new robin, a robin of colored 2 x 2 slides? If so contact Mr. Orville M. Baker, 810 Litchfield, Wichita 3, Kansas.

The purpose of this robin is to circulate 2 x 2 slides among its members. The slides should concern iris or matters pertaining thereto. It is hoped that from these slides the members of the robin will gain information on both the subject of iris and the subject of photography.

If you wish to join one of these Kodachrome Robins first write Mr. Baker. Do not send slides with your application but wait until the robin comes to you. You will be allotted space for ten slides. Simply add your slides and when the robin comes back from a complete circuit take out your ten slides and add ten new ones. Be sure that each of your slides is marked with your name, the title of the flower and the location of the picture if possible.

It is necessary that you agree to pay postage and insurance to the next robin in your group. Slides may be either mounted in glass or unmounted, in fact, unmounted slides are preferred. The number of rounds made per year will depend entirely upon the co-operation of the ten people comprising the robin.

ORVILLE M. BAKER,
AIS Director, Kodachrome Robins

HYBRID VERSUS MUTATION

M. D. NAYLOR, (Utah)

Each year plant breeders are becoming more concerned with the internal organization of plant life and concurrently, with the way this organization enters into the over all plan of differentiation in nature which segregates the various species. Haven't we all, in fact, at some-time wondered why the myriad species in their natural environment seldom intermingle, perpetuating themselves among their neighbors through long periods of time with little or no variation. We quite often find fossil forms of ferns and some higher plant forms showing little difference from modern descended types. The Rocky Mountains were uplifted some sixty million years ago and today they are a rich source of such material.

On first thought this would appear hardly compatible with our own experience wherein we witness the ease of crossing one tall bearded iris species or variety with another. On the other hand, when we travel further afield and try our hand at crossing less closely related iris species with another, we may find that we have a much more difficult task. Suppose we brush some of the lush green pollen of *I. susiana*, which is, of course, an *Oncocyclus* species, onto the stigma of Snow Flurry, a promiscuous tall bearded hussy, and get no seed, the light must surely begin to dawn. Maybe we have been trying to upset nature's master plan of segregation. This she resents and marshals all the forces at her command to defeat our little scheme. In her favor there may be a marked difference in hereditary constitution which precludes, or at least makes extremely difficult, an orderly association of the chromosomes. Without this association there can rarely be any hybrid offspring.

It is fortunate indeed that nature herself encounters these same difficulties, which contribute to a natural and continuing isolation of the species, and were it not thus, our universe would be a jumbled mass.

The chemical process of reproduction is still unknown, but thanks to the microscope we are learning a lot more about the mechanics of the deal. In iris, the difference in two distinct species may be very minute physically, but they always differ in the constitution of their chromosomes and in many physiological traits. Hence, we may find them in close natural juxtaposition but still maintaining their own true identity. Conversely, some species, we may find, vary so much in structure that they cannot be pollinated by the same insects, or they may differ in color, odor and shape, thus attracting different insects altogether. Obviously, there is little chance of cross-pollination under such adverse conditions. Usually, when chance pollination does occur, the union fails to result in fertilization, or at best produces non-viable seed.



Mr. Grant watches as M. D. Naylor, new RVP for Region 12, appraises iris Carol Harker.

Photo by Conrad.

Despite all these obstacles, we do have what we term natural hybrids. They are rare, but let us examine what happens when one does occur. We are well aware that the chromosomes carry most of the units of heredity in both plants and animals. These units we call genes. They in turn synthesize themselves from surrounding non-genic material and are considered stable because the copies thus synthesized ordinarily are true likenesses. The chromosomes and the genes with the chromosomes are made up of some of the most active chemical constituents of the plant. Both are sometimes changed either spontaneously, or they may be altered experimentally by X-rays, ultra violet light and certain chemicals.

Let us pause here for a moment to examine as briefly as possible the actual process occurring when a successful cross is achieved. The pollen particle, carrying its characteristic chromosome arrangement, comes

in contact with the stigma and from it a pollen tube develops which travels down to the ovary where the egg cell is located. There it encounters the egg cell, and if union is made, the egg is fertilized by the male gamete or sperm liberated by the pollen tube. From this union, the hybrid individual is born; but it cannot develop normally unless the genes and chromosomes contributed by the parents are compatible.

As mentioned above, at some time during the process of conception or at some other stage in the life cycle, the character of the chromosomes may become materially altered. When the chromosome is changed we may have a lasting alteration. It follows that when such variants get together in a single organism produced by cross-breeding, we have a hybrid with new characteristics. When this occurs in the natural habitat of the plant and under natural conditions, we have a natural hybrid.

But we sometimes encounter a different kind of alteration affecting individual genes. To illustrate: a photographer may vary the angle of light on the negative plate in the darkroom, or may distort the negative itself and achieve a weird resultant print; just so, the synthesis of a gene may be faulty. It fails to make a true copy due to some chemical disturbance. It is entirely conceivable that this chemical intrusion may have come from some strange gene, carrying slightly different components. This is mutation. The faulty copy can be accentuated by treating the genes with some external and distorting influence such as X-ray or some chemical compound such as mustard gas.

Since the reaction in such instances is believed to be in large part chemical, it is entirely possible that the introduction of strange genes (viz., species X species) may make the resultant progeny not a hybrid in the strict sense, but a mutation brought about by customary hybridizing methods. In other words, not only may we have a distortion of chromosomal arrangement, but we may also have a change of the genes within them.

My observation of the outward or physical characteristics of the iris variety William Mohr leads me to the conviction that it may well be a mutation, or at least a mutant hybrid. The Check List gives its parentage as (*Parisiana* X *I. gatesii*) although Dr. Mitchell in his article in *The Iris—An Ideal Hardy Perennial*, chose to place it the other way, (*I. gatesii* X *Parisiana*), and I am willing to take his version as he was very close at the time of birth. In any event, Philipp de Vilmorin, back in 1904, must have used some form of *I. germanica* as pod parent for *Parisiana*, and as Tell Muhlstein very logically suggests, the pollen parent could very well have been *pallida* or some variation thereof which carried a recessive gene for the *plicata* character. I have no knowledge of *plicata* children among William Mohr's

offspring (Craig's line of plicatas from Capitola X plicata in the second generation is hardly indicative). Thus its mutant characteristics tend strongly toward the oncocyclus side, both from its physical appearance and the nature of its descendants, all of which appear to be more than 25% mulattos. Finally, why haven't we been able to produce its simile from the same parent cross?

Eden Philpotts in his book *My Garden*—(1906) writes: "In trying to produce a derivative of *I. foetidissima* with finer bloom and still retaining the scarlet coral of its brilliant fruit, I wrote to Sir Michael Foster. As I suspected, he had made extensive experiments . . . He tells me that for years he has worked with *foetidissima* using pollen of *spuria*, *Monnieri*, *aurea* . . . and others. Seeds have appeared in some cases, but few germinated. Two, however, actually flowered and they showed no trace of anything but their mother. Here appears a sort of partheno-genesis, excited by the pollen, though the pollen did not actually enter the embryo." Here we find an analogous case and Sir Michael states: "I shall no doubt be convicted of rank heresy in making such a statement."

Whether we use mutations or hybrid types in our insatiable quest for new forms or colors, it is intriguing to let the imagination wander into the distant future and try to visualize where we will be, say, one hundred years from now. Perhaps the whole iris family will in the end rebel and refuse to respond further to our intensive efforts. But this much encouragement we shall always have: biologists believe that there is an inner urge toward perfection in all plant life, and this should persist down through all time. Hybridization, in any event, will continue to be a creative response of living matter to the challenges of environment. The role of environment is to provide opportunity, either through the medium of hybrid or mutation, for biological invention.

* * * * *

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following cytological information concerning the iris William Mohr is furnished by Dr. L. F. Randolph.

* * * * *

It is quite possible that William Mohr has characteristics which would not ordinarily be expected in hybrids of *Oncocyclus* and tall bearded parentage, but the cytological evidence is conclusive that it is a true hybrid of an iris having the same chromosome number as *Parisiana* and an *Oncocyclus* species. William Mohr has 22 chromosomes, which is the number to be expected from the combination of 10 from an *Oncocyclus* iris (all known species of *Oncocyclus* iris have a gametic number of 10 chromosomes) and 12 from a diploid tall bearded iris. Furthermore, the breeding behavior of William Mohr furnishes additional proof that it originated as a hybrid of two very

distantly related irises such as *Parisiana* and *I. gatesii*. It is highly sterile and produces very few seeds regardless of the way the cross is made. Only unreduced eggs with the full somatic number of chromosomes have been known to function, which is characteristic of hybrids from wide crosses. In combination with tetraploid tall *William Mohr* has produced such varieties *Elmohr* and *Ormohr* which have 46 chromosomes, including 22 from *William Mohr* and 24 from the tetraploid tall bearded parent. The chromosomal constitution of the first generation seedlings from *William Mohr* precludes the possibility of *plicatas* appearing among them and not a sufficient number of second generation seedlings have yet been produced to test the possibility that *plicatas* may segregate in the second generation.

REPORT FROM REGION 13

MRS. ALBERT HAASE, RVP

When we left Walla Walla June 4, for Sioux City, Iowa, and the Annual Meeting, our irises were past the peak of bloom. Some of the later ones such as *Extravaganza* and *Mary Ellen* were just beginning. The season here was about 10 days late, but with all, we had a wealth of bloom. Perhaps the irises liked the really cold weather that we had for there was not as much winter injury as we had the year before.

Due to a very busy spring, I found I was unable to do all the garden visiting I had planned, so I am relying upon reports that have been sent me.

Mrs. Rose Dightman of Tacoma sent me news of the Yakima gardens. At Iris Test Gardens (Mr. Alexander Maxwell), she reports seeing some extra special seedlings; *Cliffdell*, a lavender and brown, very ruffly; *Topflight*, a light yellow with lots of ruffles; *Maxwelton*, gold and brown; *Obannon* (Luke Norton), was a honey; *Piquante*, a light yellow with white edging. All had very good substance, good branching and were different. The colors were all clean and very much alive.

From Mr. Gordon Plough in Wenatchee, I received word that the most outstanding newcomers in line of performance in his garden were *Argus Pheasant*, *Permanent Wave* and *Pink Bountiful*. Other new, and fairly new ones, that put on a good show were: *Altamohr*, *Amandine*, *Anita Catherine*, *Ballet Dancer*, *Cloth of Gold*, *Desert Song*, *Gems of Topaz*, *Helen McGregor*, *Jasmine*, *Mohrdyke*, *Mt. Ararat*, *New Snow*, *Pink Cameo*, *Red Torch*, *Rocket*, *Rosy Ruffles*, *Ruffled Bouquet*, *Russet Wings*, *Susitna Sunset*, *Tiffanja*, *Tranquil Moon*, *Velvet Dusk*, *Voodoo*

and White Smoke. Laurel Hill, a Mohr derivative, had its usual big sturdy stalks and large flowers. Mr. Plough is doing a lot of good work with his seedlings and writes that his best new seedling appears to be from a cross of Laurel Hill X Gems of Topaz. He is setting out several thousand new seedlings, so should have something to see next blooming season.

Mrs. W. H. Keen visited the Cooley Gardens and gave me this report:

San Antone—similar to Sunset Blaze.

Indiana Night—better than Sable, nicely domed standards, fine dark blooms, extra fragrant.

Desert Song—one of the finest creams.

Russet Wings—rich color.

Jane Phillips—rates four stars; true blue daughter of Helen McGregor, beautiful form, crisp and heavily ruffled, very large, really a must have.

Pale Primrose—another must have, beautifully domed standards, branching not the best.

Char-Maize—fine, chartreuse yellow.

Leading Lady—white falls with yellow ruffled edge, pale yellow standards, good.

Carousel—nicely domed standards, fine form.

Radiation—fine orchid pink.

Gay Border—good plicata, deep red with purplish lines; saw an arrangement using it with red columbine that was outstanding.

Voodoo—very good brown, domed chocolate standards and deep maroon falls, very velvety, curled edges.

Pierre Menard—good blue, open standards, wide falls.

Sky Ranger—fine blue like a summer sky.

Rich Raiment—very heavily colored red on light yellow, outstanding plicata.

Peg Dabagh—blue violet, well liked.

Heather Rose—ruffled like Pink Sensation, but with close branching, tangerine beard, rosy orchid color, good substance.

Dolly Varden—shade more salmon than Pink Sensation, golden buff color on haft and striation on falls.

Thothmes III—fine brown, short, good for front or border, extra good bloom.

Alline Rogers—beautiful big blend, fine wide falls, buff on lavender.

Solid Gold—Dr. Kleinsorge's new golden yellow—a must have, huge beautifully shaped flower, solid mass of gold, to be introduced in 1951.

Savage—most unusual onco, outstanding, really well named.

Anatolia—red onco.

At Schreiner's in Salem, Oregon, the following irises were noted:

Lodestone—like Rocket, but does not fade.

Dawn Reflection—nice rose plicata.

Ebony Queen—very fine iris, dark and large with good form.

Envoy—dark plum standards with wide black falls.

Melody Lane—beautiful but flops.

Lady Louise—very nicely ruffled, yellow standards, cream falls edged in yellow.

Pinnacle—is very lovely.

Now for the local gardens around Walla Walla, both commercial and private. We are very fortunate in having many really good varieties grown in this locality.

The garden of Mrs. Jake Smith in Waitsburg is an interesting place to visit. She is a real "flower grower," growing almost everything in a small space with good results. Her collection of irises is very complete and she is doing some hybridizing.

We enjoyed the landscaping of the new home of Mr. & Mrs. Bill Chandler along with their iris display. Their irises are arranged in blocks around which one can walk and see them at all angles. Mr. Chandler has been hybridizing the last few years and a seedling of his was very nice this season. It is an unusual shade of brown with a very ruffled edge. We are hoping he will name this one. His report on his garden follows:

Argus Pheasant—large flaring flower on medium tall sturdy stalk.

Increase seems to be a little under average.

Pretty Quadroon—a good grower that seems to be tops in every way.

Pink Sensation—to me, the best pink I have seen. Good sized flower that does not fade out the first day.

Opal Cloud—color hard to describe but strikes me as more pink than anything else. Form of the flower very much like its parent Cascade Splendor. I like it very much.

Radiation—a good color of orchid pink, nicely shaped flower, good substance and holds its color well, good increaser.

Sunset Blaze—broadest falls I have ever seen, am anxious to see a clump of it, had only two increases.

Plum Pretty—short the first year but like the plum color very much.

Carabella—not as pink as some but very good in a clump, has good height, good stalks and increase is terrific.

Campfire Glow—beautiful color, just wish it had a little larger bloom.

Firedance—to me, this is the plicata. Good height, size and shape of flower.

Gay Border—wonderful plant but somehow the color just does not seem to get me.

The Iris City Gardens of Mrs. L. B. Losey contains many new and exceptionally well grown irises. There I saw Spring Romance which is a very lovely iris.

Sea Lark—a different blue.

Esquire—a very flaring dark blue from Mrs. Lena Lothrop. I cannot understand how I missed it before and it is now growing in my garden.

At the garden of Mrs. Walter Schmelzer, the most outstanding display was a long row of Bryce Canyon that was growing better than any time I had ever seen it. It was really breathtaking in the sunlight. There I saw a clump of Fantasy that made me resolve not to touch mine until it was a clump, too. Mrs. Schmelzer grows many kinds of irises and this year had a clump of the Siberian variety Tropic Night that was literally breathtaking. Her collection of dwarf irises contains many of the newer jewels that are now being put out to brighten our early spring gardens.

Mrs. Tom Brown, a comparative “newcomer” to irises has a small but very select and very well grown garden of irises. There I saw Mrs. Whiting’s Lilac Lane with five blossoms open at one time.

At the country garden of Mrs. Kenneth McDouall, we saw many lovely irises. Pink Sensation was lovely as it was in my own garden and Amandine was outstanding with its substance like leather. Casa Morena, Juliet and Good News really put on a show this year for me.

I grow daffodils, tulips, daylilies, phlox and mums along with the irises and this year in digging my large clumps, I found only two cases of rot. I consider this exceptional, in that the ground is kept soaked most of the time.

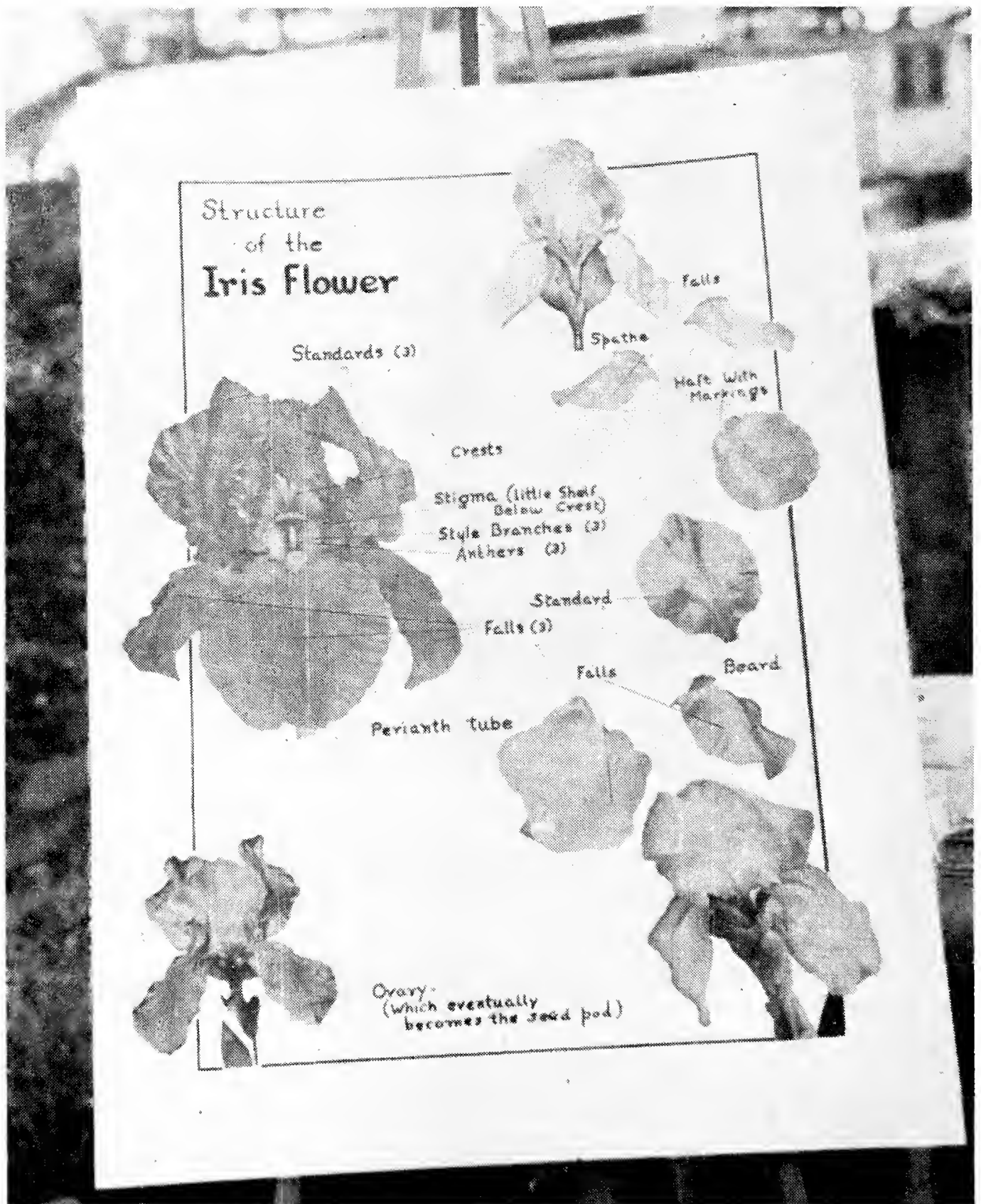
Two iris shows were held in this region, one sponsored by the local iris club and the other in Summerville, Oregon. This was their first year to have a show judged and reports on it indicated that it was a success. I am really proud of our local iris club.

I am very proud of the way Region 13 responded in the membership campaign drive, bringing in a total of 96 new members. Winners of the grand prizes offered (Region 13 only) were Mrs. W. H. Keen, Walla Walla, with 31 new members, 17 of which were right around this locality, and Mrs. Wallace Westenskow in Oregon with 13. Mrs. L. B. Losey, College Place, was a close second to Mrs. Keen with 29 members to her credit. Credit should be given Mr. Scott and Geddes Douglas for the fine job they did on the membership campaign.

In closing this report, I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you to visit the gardens in Oregon and Washington when and if you have the opportunity. I assure you, you will be very welcome.

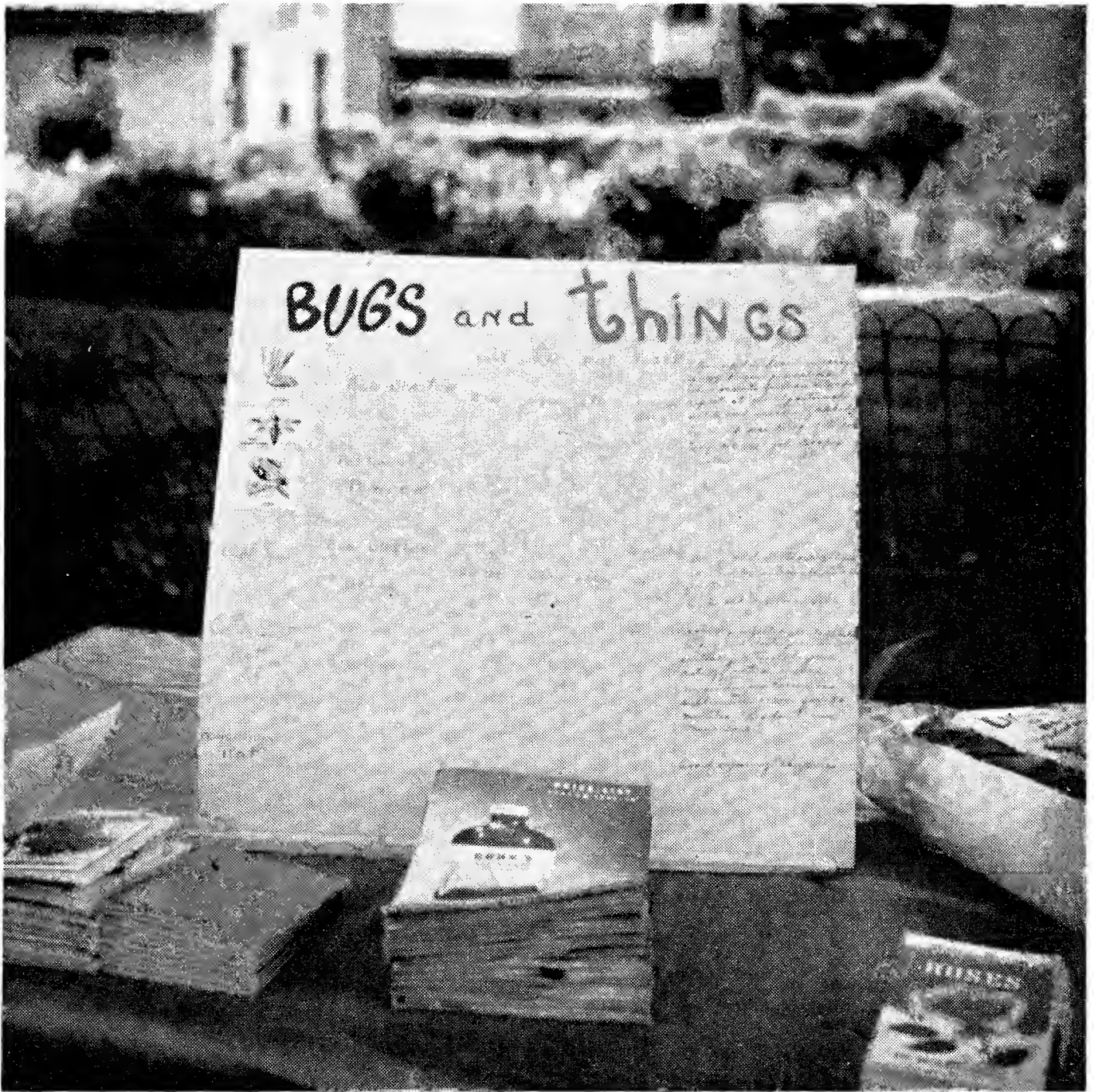
Urbana Idea

Mrs. V. R. Frederick, Ohio



On May 29, 1950, The Urbana Garden Club and the Better Gardens Club sponsored an event which has served to increase iris interest in this community to a marked extent. In my garden

and in that of Mr. D. P. Wickersham were growing several hundred new varieties of iris. Acting as hosts, the members of the above mentioned two garden clubs conducted through the



gardens more than a hundred visitors from other garden clubs from Urbana and nearby communities.

After our guests had completed the "tour" they were encouraged to avail themselves of the information from the several exhibits which we had prepared for the occasion.

Our display tables were the means of dispensing information on culture and care of iris. On this table were five illustrated charts, all prepared by garden club members.

The first chart showed the structure of the iris flower. A large picture of Elmoir had each part of the flower labeled and, in addition, smaller individual parts of the flower were illustrated in detail. We felt that anyone not familiar with iris could now read

an iris catalogue and understand the terms used.

The second chart was not so pleasant. It was headed by a warning, "Bugs and Things," and featured the most common insects and fungi affecting iris. Suggestions for eradication and prevention of such troubles were included on the chart.

The third chart showed a specimen stalk of Great Lakes anchored in a test tube on one side of a large cardboard and on the other side was listed the American Iris Society's scale for judging iris. Under each item was printed an explanation of just what was considered in judging that particular point. That is, Color 25% and under that the things one looks for in color; brilliance or delicacy, clarity, resistance



to water spotting and resistance to sun fading. After studying the chart, individuals were able to determine better for themselves what constitutes a good iris.

The fourth chart illustrated just how to plant an iris and the last chart featured pictures of irises and was en-

titled, "Good Iris for \$1.00 or Less." Among those shown were Dykes Medal winners Elmohr, Wabash, Missouri, Prairie Sunset and Great Lakes. Others illustrated were Sable, Winter Carnival, Fair Elaine, Mulberry Rose, Elsa Sass, Golden Majesty and The Admiral. Along with this chart was a mimeo-

JAPANESE IRIS

New Varieties, New strain of
American origination

WRITE FOR LIST

W. A. PAYNE

R. R. 3, Terre Haute, Ind.



IRIS—PEONIES

HEMEROCALLIS

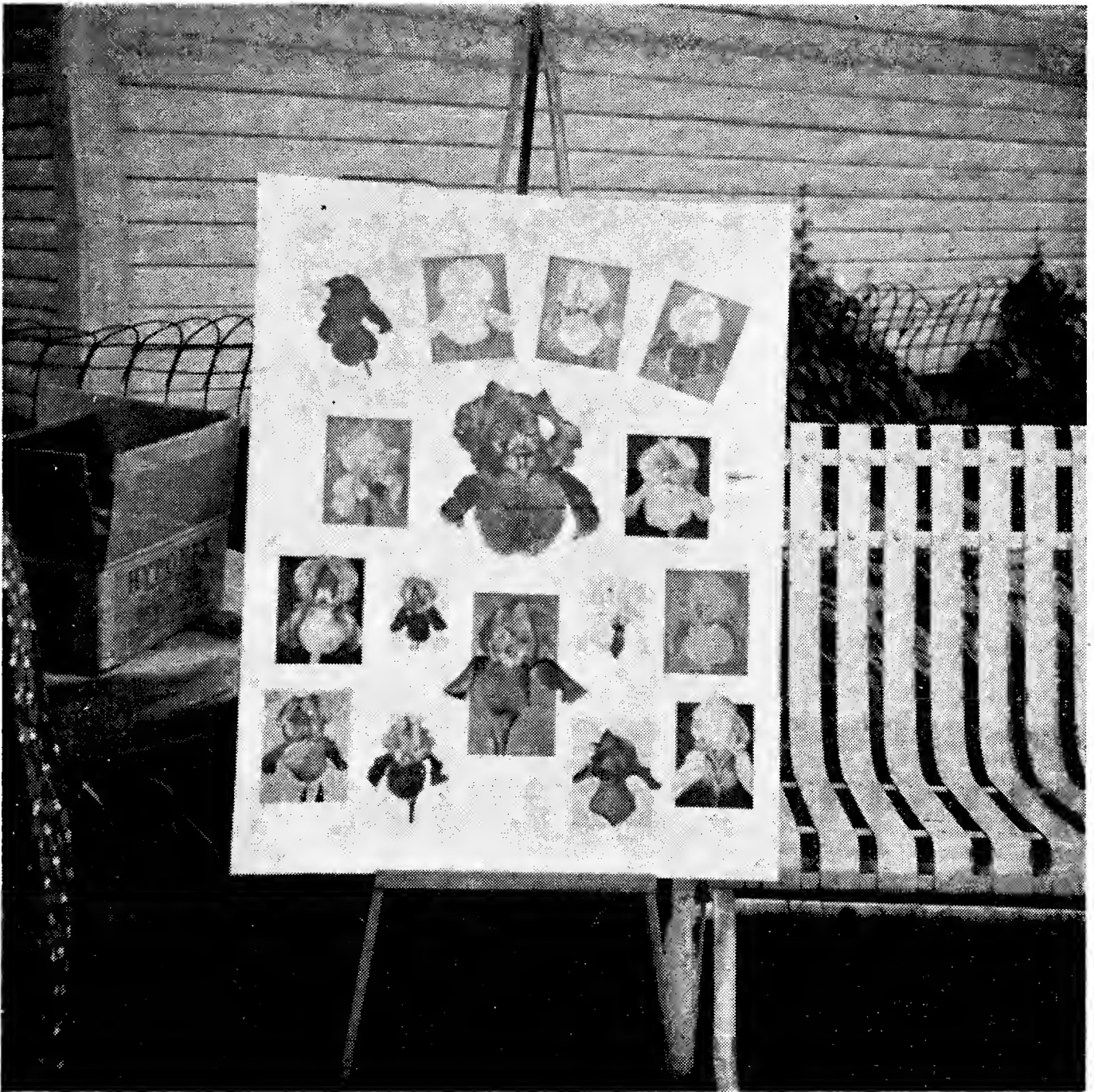
POPPIES—BULBS

Colorful Catalog Free

C. F. WASSENBURG

VAN WERT, OHIO

"The Peony City"



graphed list which our club had compiled listing all the iris now on the 100 best list which can be purchased for \$1.00 or less.

One other mimeographed sheet had been prepared which was headed "How To Grow Iris," with twelve easy rules to follow. This was also compiled by the host club.

In addition to the charts were displays of the various insecticides and fungicides, etc., which might be used in the home garden.

I firmly believe that the irises themselves, the exhibits, the printed pamphlets on culture and the list of good inexpensive varieties made a lasting impression on our guests.

Our Members Write . . .

THE PLAINFIELD PLAN

In the first letter under "Our Members Write," October Bulletin—Mr. Mather went straight to the heart of the matter in his "How Do You Do It?" In the Cedar Brook Park Iris Garden in Plainfield, New Jersey, we undertook to solve the problem in the following manner:

First—location or setting. Our little locust groves, our handsome surrounding shrubbery made such exceptionally beautiful background that no less an authority than Richardson Wright was one of the first to become enthusiastic.

Second—design. At the writer's request, nearly nineteen years ago, all beds were made with curves (angles verboten), all different sizes and shapes, and nearly all were sufficiently narrow. There were "open centers" at intervals.

Third—color. The general color plan was also designed nineteen years ago. No irritating jumble. Behind a long bed of whites extends an eighty foot snake-shaped bed which, starting with pale tones of pink, proceeds through medium pinks to reds. In other beds, shades of blue are treated in a like manner. Shades of pale blue are graded to white. *Amoenas* are together; white ground *plicatas* are planted together and in the other beds are masses of tones of yellow. Masses of harmonious gradings of colors as far as the eyes can see are pleasing. When new varieties are acquired they are chosen for color, form, substance and for their eventual use in the general color scheme, never because they are the newest, the largest or the most spectacular.

While these factors are especially noticeable in the areas planted with bearded iris they are also true to a lesser extent of the six large beds of Japanese and Siberian on the lower

level and of the three sizeable beds of native species and hybrids. The bed containing the early blooming *reticulatas* is at the entrance for easy access.

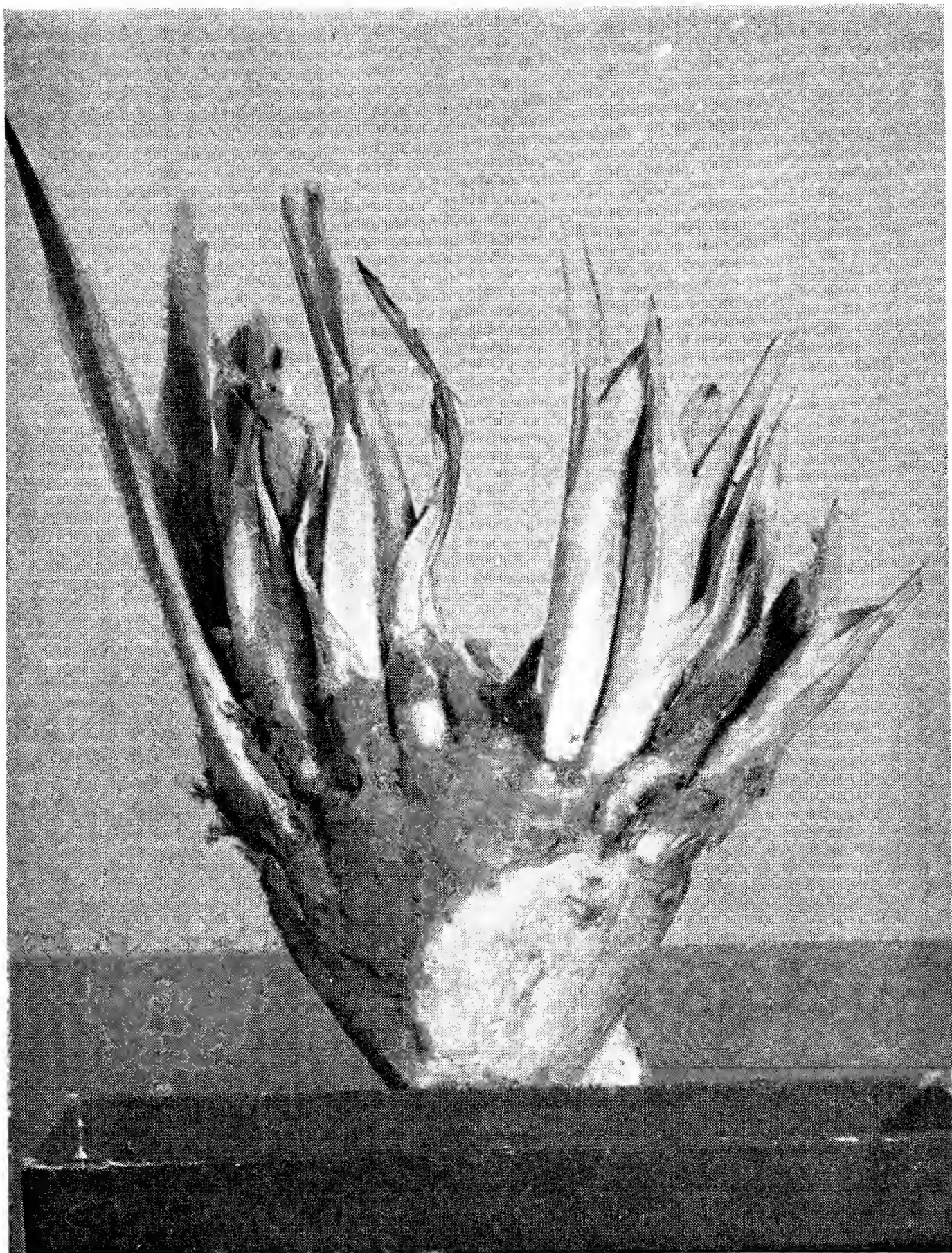
Again Mr. Mather is right in mentioning the dependability of some of the old varieties. The spring of 1950 was by far the worst season for iris in the nearly thirty years in which I have been growing them and yet most of the "old" ones carried on superbly with masses of color. This later factor is, of course, of less importance in small gardens and of most importance in large ones—especially public plantings.

At Cedar Grove we are very fortunate in two other ways. At an opening in the shrubbery we have a wide rather steep slope which, although it demands a little more care in the refilling of washed spaces, gives a splendid spread of color which can be enjoyed from the road by people unable to leave their cars. (It is pleasing to notice more use of slopes in iris plantings as evidenced in articles and pictures.)

The second good fortune is a dry location which, while obviating the necessity for disfiguring mounds of soil, makes it necessary to plant at or below turf level, thus completing the beauty of the whole.—HARRIETTE R. HALLOWAY, N.J.

WELL ROUNDED GOSSIP

I do appreciate receiving the Bulletin on time, and Dorothy Dennis notwithstanding, it would ruin the friendly feeling of it to remove all the gossip, though I know that we need the other type of article too. So try to make it well rounded and then there will be something for all of us and no one need complain.—MRS. LUCILE CONRAD, Idaho.



PINEAPPLING IN ARGENTINA?

I am enclosing some photographs that were taken last year when Sole Mio (a yellow iris from Holland) made this queer growth. Is this what is known as "pineappling" and how can it be prevented? Sole Mio is again behaving like this now! All iris are in full growth now and will flower next month (October). Of my irises from

U. S. A., Red Valor last year and Vatican Purple this year, produced monster flowers on a fat three inch stem but that I put down to the change of hemisphere. However, Sole Mio has been here three years and has been divided. It is very floriferous and a beautiful shade of yellow in the garden. —CLARICE WALLACE MCGREGOR DELANG, San Lorenzo, Argentina.

TRANSPLANTING IRIS DOUGLASIANA

Transplanting and propagating *Iris douglasiana* presents few difficulties to gardeners who have the know-how, but to those who try to handle them as they would handle bearded irises failure is almost certain.

Very good directions are given by Prof. Sydney Mitchell in "The Iris—an Ideal Hardy Perennial," and in Dr. Mitchell's new book, "Iris For Every Garden," both of which should be in the library of every irisarian.

The present writer can add but little to what Dr. Mitchell says, but one or two hints might be helpful. To take up and divide a plant one should wait until the new fans first poke their slender leaves through the soil. These new fans must be watched for, near or at the ends of the old fans. The new roots are beginning to form at this time. To wait until the new growth has made considerable progress is too late. At such a stage the plant has used up too much of its stored up food and the chances of survival are remote.

To do the job right presents little difficulty and if the plant is particularly attractive it is well worth the trouble.—ERIC NIES, Calif.

ADVENTURES IN GOOD EATING

On reading Mr. Raymond Barron's letter about iris and nematodes, I thought perhaps he might be interested in the information written in the University of California bulletin on common garden pests. Since this was co-authored by Prof. E. O. Essig, I should think it would be authoritative as to iris. I quote:

"Plants vary in their susceptibility to the root-knot nematode. . . . Such plants as corn, onion, strawberry, gladiolus, nasturtium, IRIS, lily, tulip, and narcissus are relatively resistant to attack."

Nematode is a serious problem here in Southern California in sandy soils. I have heavy adobe, and thus have had

no trouble. Since Dowfume N. and Shell D-D would mean taking up the iris, and the D-D is very toxic to humans, I should think that if Mr. Barron kept his iris plantings away from the very susceptible things like roses, snaps, pansies, tomatoes, he would be safe. Unless, of course, the Tennessee nematodes have exotic tastes!—MRS. HUGH LESTER, Calif.

VARIETY ADDS INTEREST

This was one year when I have had literally continuous bloom in the garden from crocus time, when the *I. reticulata* species and Cantab began to bloom. This is the third season for the purple variety so I feel that it is established now. *I. cristata* did very well, especially the white form. With the help of *I. tectorum*, the Dwarfs, the Intermediates, Dutch, Siberian, Louisiana, Spurias and the Japanese with a few other varieties thrown in, there has been a steady parade of iris color until August when *I. dichotoma* failed me. I find the *Regelio-cyclus* hybrids fascinating and they have bloomed the second year without lifting. *I. korolkowi* has been planted near them in the rock garden and I hope will bloom again next year.

I am attempting to grow in our changeable climate *I. douglasiana* and *I. innominata* which I have started from seed Dr. Sydney B. Mitchell so kindly sent me. I expect to have some bloom next year. With a native Florida iris, *I. hexagona*, dug up along the wayside by my husband, and protected over the winter by mulch, and a few other species, *I. wilsonii*, etc., I have now what might be called an iris garden. All in all, the genus *Iris* is quite fascinating.—MRS. EUGENE R. MILES, Ohio.

FIVE LITTLE IRIS AND HOW THEY GREW

The garden was tucked in between a white picket fence on the one side and a high board fence on the other, sloping from the house to the rear of the lot. The center path was bordered

on either side with perfect rows of the most exquisite blossoms in a multitude of solid colors and color combinations. Here and there was a white one to offset the brighter tones and even a dainty little Miss of white with pink button-hole stitching around its petals.

There was a heavenly blue growing as high as my head and an orange one almost the color of the oranges hanging on the tree next door. To my surprise each was named and my host introduced me to every one as if they were his friends, which indeed they were. I was awed, surely these could not be of the same family of iris as those I had known and loved in my mother's garden!

This was the garden of Mr. W. H. Davis here in Santa Barbara, the garden of the late brother-in-law of Dr. George M. Reed who needs no introduction to AIS members or any iris minded people. The good doctor had sent a few iris to my friend which had fired this enthusiasm for more and better ones until now, in 1943, he grew a variety of some 100 including such things as Great Lakes and The Red Douglas.

Seeing my enthusiasm and after subsequent visits, my host told me to select five iris which I liked best and he would give me rhizomes of each as soon as they were ready to transplant. My selection included the following: Happy Days, Easter Morn, Frieda Mohr, Brown Betty and the tall one mentioned above, Sierra Blue.

At the height of the 1945 blooming season, having forced himself to live to see his beloved iris bloom once again in all their glory, my good friend Mr. Davis passed quietly into the great beyond. Now there was no one to talk the iris language with and it was up to me to carry on alone.

With my original five iris as a start and with the aid of the AIS Bulletins which I had inherited from Mr. Davis, I now had a collection of some 75 iris varieties and felt I knew enough about iris to open my garden to visitors. Their enthusiasm overwhelmed me for

they began arriving before we had had our breakfast and all day they arrived until dark. In fact more than once my husband had to come to the garden with a flash light to assist me back to the house. All of this meant only one thing, a society should be formed to help these eager people to learn more about iris culture.

I had learned the method of hybridizing from the picture in the AIS Bulletin Number 93 and through the suggestion of Dr. Reed had met C. S. Milliken of Pasadena who gave me some very valuable information on iris genetics. Many of my seedlings have bloomed although none have been spectacular. I have, however, learned a great deal about inheritance possibilities from my experience.

So many interesting people had visited the garden and now the time seemed ripe to form a society and it was from these people that we drew the first members of the Santa Barbara Iris Society. Already we had the interest at high pitch so it was little wonder that seven months after our first meeting we have a society of 51 active members and 10 associate members. Great are our plans for the future and it is to Dr. Reed and to Mr. Davis that we owe our thanks for our beginning. Now with our trust in the AIS and their instructive Bulletins we hope to see our Society grow into one of note.
—MELVA O. MOON, Calif.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

In 1947 I crossed Indian Hills onto the diploid Dogrose. The plants from this cross were nearly all less than 12 inches high, with slender stems and small flowers.

In 1948 I crossed Melitza onto Dogrose and grew about 200 plants from the cross. These plants were 100% tall growing plants and of the 70 or so that bloomed, all were large-flowered. These were mostly shades of yellow. There were a few orchids, some muddy lavenders, and five pinks with the tangerine beard. These pinks were the smallest flowered of the lot. On these

pinks I put pollen from Carabella, Courtier, Hit Parade and Pink Cameo. All of the crosses took.

Will someone explain these two crosses to me? Why did one give nearly all small plants while the other gave all large plants? What might I expect to get from the seed to be collected this year from the Dogrose X Melitza cross X the various pinks mentioned?—BENNETT C. JONES, Ore.

It is very interesting that pinks with the tangerine beard were obtained from the Dogrose X Melitza cross. There has been much speculation about the possibility that the tangerine beard is present as a hidden recessive in some of the diploid varieties from which tetraploid pinks have originated. Since Dogrose has a yellow beard, which is dominant to the tangerine beard, it must have been carrying the gene for the latter in one of its chromosomes in order for the recessive tangerine beard color to show in the first generation seedlings of the Dogrose X Melitza cross. The pinks from this cross when bred with other pinks such as Pink Cameo will produce pinks exclusively in the next generation.

In order to have obtained as many as 200 seedlings from this cross either a large number of blooms must have been pollinated, or the Dogrose X Melitza combination is much more cross compatible than are other combinations of diploid and tetraploid varieties. Ordinarily, not more than a very few seeds are obtained from such crosses.

Looking back through my records of the $2n \times 4n$ crosses which I have made during the past 10 or 15 years in an attempt to combine desirable traits of the two groups of varieties, and to test their crossability, I find nothing comparable to your results. In no case were more than ten or a dozen seeds per pod obtained from any one of a total of 26 diploids which have been used in crosses with a somewhat larger number of tetraploid varieties. The only cross involving Dogrose that I have happened to make was with Kashmir White as the pollen parent. Three

blooms were pollinated, one pod containing 4 plump seeds and a considerable number of smaller, shriveled seeds was obtained. None of these seeds germinated. But from other $2n \times 4n$ crosses small numbers of triploids and occasional tetraploids have been obtained.

The triploids I have produced from $2n \times 4n$ crosses ordinarily have been intermediate between the parents in height and flower size and the tetraploids have been more like the tetraploid parent. There appears to be no obvious explanation for plants of short stature from the Dogrose X Indian Hills cross. Both are relatively tall varieties in my garden and intercrossees of tall, except for occasional variants of reduced stature, regularly produce tall seedlings.—DR. L. F. RANDOLPH, N. Y.

ANENT THE ONCOCYCLUS

I am a comparatively new comer to the ranks of iris hybridizers, but I feel that I have been working at one phase of iris breeding long enough that my experiences and observations might be of help to others.

In the five years that I have been reading the AIS Bulletins I have seen very few articles of help to those working with the oncocyclis line.

Although the hybrids of these with the Eupogons are beautiful, they have been, generally speaking, hard to grow due to their tenderness. They have poor foliage and are hard if not impossible to use for further development.

To cure this and to reach the goal of beautifully patterned onco type flowers that also have good foliage, sturdy, well branched stalks and are reliably winter hardy, I think a new approach should be made to the problem. Up to now most of the successful hybrids of the oncos X Eupogons have involved 24 chromosome dwarfs and intermediates. This has resulted in short stalked, tender, poor foliated, and generally sterile plants. Oncos crossed with tall bearded are more difficult, with few seeds set, poor germination, tender,



Clump of
REGELIO-CYCLUS HYBRID PARTHENOPE

Photo by Corliss

more or less sterile and with the onco characteristics dominated by the bearded.

I think, however, that there is another line of breeding that may give the hoped for results.

Aside from an unexpected break it calls for some basic crosses to be made with Regelias. Regelias offer unusual winter hardiness, and vigor of increase without sacrificing fertility in the hybrids.

I have had no difficulty in crossing the tall bearded with Regelia pollen and have some seedlings of El Capitan X Luna and Purissima X Lucia (a cross of 2 regelia types) which I believe should be ideal as a parent stock with which to use Onco pollen, or of the types like Capitola. I am also using Capitola pollen on the Oncogelias. I find it is very effective in setting seed on these. I have 2 seedlings up this fall already from seed set this summer on Luna X Capitola.

From my observations to date I have come to the conclusion that if the Oncos are to produce a really good garden flower there will have to be some regelia blood in the mixture.

Here in Seattle we have a climate severe enough to weed out the tender ones and mild enough to get enough bloom on oncos to carry on a hybridizing program with these types. In a few more years I hope to prove my theories.

Meanwhile, if any of the members who may have more experience in this line don't agree with me, how about disagreeing in the Bulletin? Maybe the members and I can learn something from it.

I still feel that I am commenting on this subject a little too soon, but who else has come forward with useful information of this kind for the members?—FRED R. CRANDALL, Wash.

REGION 6 HOLDS FIRST HYBRIDIZERS' ROUND TABLE

In September, 1950, invitations were sent to twenty-eight hybridizers in Region 6 to attend a conference to be

held in Elkhart, Indiana on October 1. Present at this initial meeting were the following fifteen hybridizers: Mr. E. G. Lapham, Mr. Walter Welch, Mrs. Geo. D. Robinson, Mr. Geo. D. Robinson, Mr. Chas. E. Morgan, Mr. Earl Fairman, Mr. Earl Evans, Mrs. Frances Horton, Mr. Wilmer Flory, Mrs. Leo Noirot, Mr. Jay C. Ackerman, Mrs. Jay C. Ackerman, Mrs. Thelma Husselman, Mrs. Diana Schuman and Mr. Clarence D. Jonas.

Purpose of this meeting was to promote an exchange of ideas between the various hybridizers located in Region 6. A series of questions was prepared and Walter Welch, who is the hybridizing director for Region 6, read the questions and assigned each to one of the members present. After this member reported his opinions on the subject a general discussion took place on each separate question before we went on to the next question. Some of the matters discussed were names of good and poor parents and their effects on their progeny; scientific breeding lines and color breaks; how to work for a desired characteristic by sib-crossing and back-crossing and when to bring in outside lines; how to work two lines simultaneously and when to combine them; what to avoid and what to stress; how to inbreed without losing vigor; the difference between flavone and plastid yellow; crossing tall-bearded irises with dwarfs to introduce certain very desirable characteristics into the former; the use of Colchicine; how to secure better color and height in red irises; how to obtain an iris with standards like Spun Gold and falls of the color of Distance; recessive whites and other matters of interest to us.

Mr. E. G. Lapham talked interestingly of his long work with pink and red irises—giving us parentages and family trees, successes and discards along the way, and a generous amount of humor and information. Walter Welch retraced for us the planned steps which led to the appearance of his lovely white with the heavy, dark blue beard, and then obligingly went into the ways

of genes and chromosomes, the inheritance of characteristics and some of the many other fascinating mysteries of the laws of inheritance. I think we were all agreed that while it is certainly possible to breed irises with some success without any knowledge of these laws, no one can realize the possibilities of hybridizing or estimate a successful line of procedure toward the desired goal without at least a working knowledge of the laws of inheritance.

The members present were unanimous in their approval of the value of hold-

ing a hybridizers' Round Robin. They felt that the advantages to be gained from discussion were very great. It is our plan to form other groups within the region and it is our suggestion that some of the groups be formed within the structure of the AIS in other parts of the country. Anyone who is interested in forming such a group may obtain ready information from either myself or Walter Welch who acted as General Chairman of our meeting.—
MRS. GEO. D. ROBINSON, RVP, Reg. 6.

BLOOM STATISTICS

My first experience in raising tall bearded iris from seed, unintentionally became an experiment on the effect of varied transplanting dates on bloom and increase.

On November 5, 1948, I planted approximately 300 tall bearded iris seed. Ninety days later, on February 8, 1949, eight of these were about an inch high. By May 1, 1949, I had about 85%

germination. Of these, I actually transplanted 248 in groups, on four different dates. The beds for these seedlings were prepared by lifting out the top 8 inches of soil, adding bonemeal and a mixture of well rotted straw, cow and chicken manure. This was forked in and the top soil replaced.

In 1949 I planted the 248 seedlings in four groups. The bloom record is as follows:

<i>Date of Transplanting</i>	<i>Number of seedlings planted</i>	<i>Plants living</i>	<i>Number of seedlings to bloom</i>	<i>% of bloom</i>
May 1	87	82	38	46.34
July 1	49	47	9	19.14
August 21	72	64	6	9.37
October 1	40	36	1	2.77
TOTAL	248	229	54	Average 25.5

On July 23, 1950, the increase on the various groups was as follows:

<i>Date of Transplanting</i>	<i>Plants living</i>	<i>Total increase</i>	<i>Average increase</i>
May 1	82	396	4.83
July 1	47	165	3.5
August 21	64	302	4.7
October 1	36	154	4.27

Considering only the factor of transplanting time, it seems definite that the earlier the seedlings are transplanted the greater will be the percentage of bloom on the first year plants. The above figures show the percentage of bloom to be in direct ratio to the earliness of transplanting. But the amount of increase is not in direct ratio and the time of transplanting does not seem to have as much influence on the

amount of increase as do other factors, such as food, temperature, moisture and perhaps, parentage.

The second group were moved in very hot weather and the bed in which groups 3 and 4 were placed had a little more fertilizer than the first bed. While these factors apparently did not affect the percentage of bloom, they do seem to have had some effect on the amount of increase.—IRIS SMITH, Okla.

Iris Show Circuit

MRS. FERN IRVING
Chairman, Exhibition Committee

CALIFORNIA—*Hollywood*

One of the most successful shows of the Southern California Iris Society was held April 29 and 30 in Plummer Park, Los Angeles. Winner of the Silver Medal was Marion R. Walker (one of the new Directors of the American Iris Society), Ventura, California. The Bronze Medal was won by Marylin Oeland, Sherman Oaks, California. A fine specimen of Golden ruffles, exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Hopson of Alhambra, was judged the best stalk of the show.

GEORGIA—*Jenkinsburg*

The iris show held by the Jenkinsburg Garden Club on April 29, at the Jenkinsburg Clubhouse, was a very successful one. Mrs. M. B. Farrar won the Silver Medal, the Bronze Medal to Mrs. W. J. Saunders. A special Green Ribbon award went to Mrs. H. G. Harris for the best specimen in the show, a stalk of Shining Waters. Other outstanding specimens shown were: Ola Kala, Snow Flurry, Blue Shimmer, Three Oaks, Daybreak, Elmohr and Golden Majesty. Judges for the show were, Mrs. C. E. Biggerstaff and Mrs. Jack Cates of Macon, Miss Mae Hudson from Atlanta, Mrs. Lindsey Futral, Mrs. Taylor Manley and Lewis Beck of Griffin.

Macon

Macon Iris Society, together with four garden clubs, in cooperation with the American Iris Society held its annual iris show on April 15, at Baconsfield Clubhouse.

Mrs. Joe Thomas was awarded the Silver Medal for receiving the most points in the Horticultural division, Mrs. O. L. Harris winning the Bronze Medal. Mrs. William T. Wood won the Cutter Trophy for having the best specimen in the show.

Judges for the specimen and collection divisions were Mr. Lewis Beck of Griffin, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Childs of Jenkinsburg. Judges for the Artistic sections were Mrs. C. J. Carter, Mrs. H. R. Edmondson and Mrs. Chas. Hardy of Gainesville, Ga., accredited Judges of the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

IDAHO—*Twin Falls*

The 11th annual Spring Show of the Twin Falls Garden Club was held Friday, June 23. In spite of the late date, 18 exhibitors placed 75 entries.

Mrs. Thomas E. Speedy, Twin Falls, was awarded the Bronze Medal; other high point winners were, Mrs. Arthur Walker of Kimberly and Mrs. Ed Conrad of Buhl.

Mrs. C. W. Vallette of Delco, Idaho judged the iris specimens.

ILLINOIS—*Villa Park*

On June 10 and 11, local members of the American Iris Society held their second iris show in cooperation with the Women's Garden Club of Villa Park. An estimated 900 persons visited the show which was held in the Ardmore Junior High School gymnasium. Approximately 350 stalks were exhibited. Because of the lateness of the show date it was necessary to cold storage a number of the stalks—about 100 stalks were successfully stored for a period of from 2 to 8 days.

Both the Silver and Bronze Medals were awarded to W. W. Sir of 210 Finley Road, Lombard, Illinois. Blue Rhythm, exhibited by Mr. Larry Pelc, Villa Park, was Best Specimen; he also showed a fine specimen of Lancaster. Master Charles exhibited by W. W. Sir was third best (it had been stored for 7 days); was from a one year plant and carried nine blooms on the stalk.

Judges were H. J. Fischer of Hins-

dale, Mrs. Mildred Harrell of Aurora and Fred Bond of Maywood.

KANSAS—*Wichita*

Wichita Iris Club, second annual show held May 13 and 14. Silver Medal was awarded to Ivy Peterson of Wichita for the most points in the Horticultural classes; M. D. Hughes, Wichita, won the Bronze Medal for second place.

MARYLAND—*Silver Spring*

Takoma Park Branch of the Washington Public Library was the place chosen for the iris show of the Takoma Horticultural Club. It was their 34th annual iris show. John H. Guill of Alexandria, Virginia won the Silver Medal and the Bronze Medal was won by Austin Nisonger, of Silver Spring. A specimen of Elsa Sass, exhibited by I. H. Richmond was judged best in the show.

Judges were Howard Watkins, Somerset, Maryland and Mrs. John Bozievich of Bradley Hills, Maryland. Mrs. Myles Buchanan, Arlington, Virginia was judge of the Artistic classes.

MICHIGAN—*Flint*

Central Michigan Iris Society presented their first iris show to the citizens of Flint and was rewarded by an attendance of 800 interested persons. Silver Medal was won by Mrs. Walter Piggot and R. J. Phillips won the Bronze Medal; both are residents of Flint.

Mio

The Mio Irisarians held their 6th annual iris show on June 17th, at the Community Building. The Silver Medal was won by Mrs. Letha Shantz for the most points in the Cultural classes, and Mr. E. Shantz won the Bronze Medal for the best specimen in the show, which was a fine stalk of Sable.

Mrs. Frances C. Horton of Elkhart, Indiana judged the show.

MINNESOTA—*Duluth*

Duluth Peony and Iris Society held their iris show on June 28th and 29th. Most outstanding specimen in the show was the variety Jake, grown and shown by Mrs. J. F. Thompson. Silver Medal

was won by Mrs. Austin Lathers and the Bronze Medal by Mrs. W. A. Swanman, both of Duluth. An interesting feature of the show was a public vote on the favorite iris. Blue Shimmer and Sir Knight were tied for first, and Pink Opal and Pink Satin tied for second place.

MISSOURI—*Kirksville*

The Kirksville Floriculture Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society and the Kirksville Chamber of Commerce, produced a spring show that will long be remembered in that city. Northeast Missouri State Teachers College set up an educational exhibit of planting back yards, showing good and bad treatment of such areas; Missouri State Department of Resources and Recreation had a nice exhibit of wild flowers native to the region, and local florists contributed various exhibits. In the competitive classes, the Houseplant section was outstanding for the many, and exceptionally fine African Violet entries. The iris were well grown and beautiful as one would expect from such a famous iris city as Kirksville.

The Silver Medal was won by Walter H. Ryle for the most blue ribbons in the specimen classes. Second place, and the Bronze Medal went to Mrs. O. H. West. The best specimen in the show was a stalk of Sierra Blue shown by Mr. E. E. Swain, Jr. Mrs. E. W. Scott was high point scorer in the Artistic classes, and Mrs. L. A. Phillips walked away with the honors in the Houseplant section.

Mrs. K. Dale Atterbery and Mrs. B. F. Woolery of Camdenton, Missouri were National Council Judges working the Artistic and Houseplant sections, and Mrs. E. J. Irving of Omaha, judged the specimen classes.

Neosho

The Neosho Garden Club held its annual iris show on May 13 and 14 in the Armory Building. Local and out-of-state visitors kept the place filled until after the closing hour.

Much interest and keen competition was shown by the 263 single entries in

the classes. No entrant could compete against himself. This brought much better stalks of iris to the show.

The Silver Medal was won by Mr. Emsley Sims with 38 points; Bronze Medal by Mr. R. E. Armstrong with 34 points and Gift Iris to Mrs. Adah Hennick with 14 points. Sweepstakes ribbon of the show was judged to Mr. Sims on his specimen stalk of Cloud-castle.

Buryl Harman, Judge of Region 18, of Joplin, Missouri, was judge of the show. Miss Ruth Sunderland served as Secretary.

St. Louis

The Annual Spring Flower Show of the St. Louis Horticultural Society in cooperation with the American Iris Society was held at the Missouri Botanical Garden on May 20 and 21. The Silver and Bronze Medals were won by Clifford Benson; the AIS membership was awarded to Albert G. Lauck of Alton, Illinois. Judges for the show were, Mr. E. Appel and Dr. C. E. Branch.

NEBRASKA—*Atkinson*

Between five and six hundred persons visited the Atkinson Iris Society's annual show on June 13 and 14. Mrs. W. L. Schultz was awarded the Silver Medal, and the Bronze Medal to Mrs. F. E. Skrdla. The grand prize specimen stalk was shown by Mrs. D. F. Scott, a fine stalk of Cornflower.

C. W. Tompkins of Sioux City was the AIS judge.

Lexington

The Lexington Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society held their annual iris show on June 1. The date was chosen to coincide with a "Plum Creek Day" celebration that would bring hundreds of people from the surrounding area to Lexington; a constant flow of visitors through the show aisles was proof of the wisdom of their choice. The Silver Medal was awarded to Mrs. Harold Wheeler, the Bronze to Mrs. Karl Randecker and the AIS membership to Mrs. Roy Rosenberg. Mrs. E. J. Irving of Omaha was the AIS judge.

Omaha

The Greater Omaha Iris Society, which was organized in January of this year, gave Omaha the first large iris show seen here for many years. Courtesy arrangements and displays of specimen iris added interest to the 97 entries of 26 exhibitors in the competitive classes. Best specimen of the show was a fine stalk of the variety Jake, shown by Mrs. Hagelin, who won the Silver Medal for the most blue ribbons in the cultural classes. The Bronze Medal was won by Mrs. S. E. Collins. Specimen judges were, Robert Clinefelter, Henry Sass and Mrs. E. J. Irving, all AIS accredited judges.

Scottsbluff

The annual Scottsbluff Iris Show was held this year on June 7 at the Congregational Church. This year's show was given by the Scottsbluff Garden Club and the Hortamantes Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society.

Miss Mary Bronson of Scottsbluff received the Silver Medal for the highest number of points in the show. The Bronze Medal was awarded to Mrs. Jack Brasear of Scottsbluff for the best Commercial exhibit.

The most outstanding specimen of the show was a stalk of Sandalwood shown by Miss Mary Bronson.

Artistic section was judged by Mrs. H. O. Gassner of Scottsbluff, and the cultural classes by Mrs. E. J. Irving of Omaha.

OHIO—*Columbus*

The Columbus Iris Society in cooperation with the American Iris Society held its sixteenth iris show at the same time the Region 6 held its meeting at Columbus, Ohio on May 27 and 28.

The show was staged at the Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts. Mrs. Silas Waters of Cincinnati, Ohio and Miss Mary Williamson of Bluffton, Indiana acted as judges for the iris classes and Prof. Victor Reis of the Ohio State University was judge of the Artistic classes.

The winner of the Silver Medal was Mrs. Paul Stephan, the President of

the Columbus Iris Society, and the Bronze Medal was won by Mr. Robert McCormick. In the Artistic arrangements Mrs. Herbert Shinkle of Clayton, Ohio won the largest number of points. Two special awards, one a silver vase donated by Mrs. E. H. Bretschneider, was won by Mrs. Irwin Jones on Blue Shimmer, the best specimen in the show. The Louise Arbuckle Silver Cup, awarded to the winner of the greatest number of A points in the iris division, was won by Mrs. Paul Stephan.

Among the newer and better varieties of irises exhibited at the show were: Cherie, Pink Cameo, Pretty Quadroon, Chamois, Pierre Menard, Elmohr, Spanish Peaks, Mellow Glow, Distance, Bryce Canyon, Tiffanja, Dreamcastle and Ola Kala. E. H. Bretschneider served as show chairman.

OKLAHOMA—*Enid*

The third annual iris show sponsored by the North Central Iris Club in connection with the American Iris Society, was held in the Education Building of Enid, Oklahoma, on May 6 and 7. There were specimens from the gardens of 38 exhibitors totaling 381 entries. Judges were Lee Rogers of Bison, Oklahoma, John Ohl, Wichita, Kansas and H. F. Murphy of Stillwater, Oklahoma.

First award, the Silver Medal, was won by Mrs. D. E. Parker for having the most blue ribbons in the specimen classes. The Bronze Medal was awarded to Mrs. Wanda Lee Miller of Glencoe, for the best specimen in the show, a stalk of Red Douglas. Mrs. Evelyn Wilson served as show chairman.

Oklahoma City

About 1500 fans attended the annual iris show which was sponsored by the Oklahoma Iris Society in cooperation with the American Iris Society, on April 29 and 30 in the Engineering Building, Oklahoma City University. Some of the new and outstanding varieties on display for the first time here were: Rocket, Pink Cameo, Cherie, Barbara Luddy, New Snow, Melodist, Distance, Hit Parade and the Dutch variety, National Velvet. Another new feature of

the show was two very nice commercial exhibits by Mr. Harry Thomas and Mr. H. A. Raboin.

The American Iris Society awards were as follows: The Silver Medal to Mrs. E. G. Sawyers, Bronze Medal to Mrs. Cecil McCutcheon, the membership to Mrs. L. A. Masterson of Yukon.

Judges for the specimen classes were: Mrs. James A. Sapp of Joplin, Missouri, Dr. C. R. Decker and Mrs. Guy Williams of Norman, Oklahoma. Judges for the arrangement classes were, Lona Eton Miller, Mrs. J. Tunnell Foster, and Mrs. G. T. Brockett, all of Oklahoma City. Mrs. H. G. Plato, show secretary. *Stillwater*

Twenty-nine people brought 121 entries to the Amateur Iris Show held May 9, in the Presbyterian Annex, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Mr. J. Lee Rogers of Bison, an Accredited Judge of the American Iris Society, judged the show. The show was staged by members of the Iris Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society. One hundred fifty-two people called during the afternoon and evening to view the exhibits.

Mrs. Kenneth Miller of Glencoe, Oklahoma, won the Silver Medal and Mrs. Fred Flohr of Stillwater was awarded the Bronze Medal.

OREGON—*La Grande*

Union County Irisarians in cooperation with the American Iris Society held their first Iris Festival in La Grande, Oregon, June 13. Keen interest was shown by the 195 entries of 20 exhibitors, which is an achievement for any group, and remarkable as a first effort. Small displays in previous years have been made by AIS members of the community.

Mrs. L. B. Losey, Iris City Gardens, Walla Walla, Washington, was the horticultural judge and Mrs. W. H. Keen, junior judge of the Federated Women's Club of Walla Walla, judged the artistic section.

The Silver Medal was won by Mrs. Fern Westenskow, Imbler, Oregon; Mrs. John Morris, Imbler, won the Bronze Medal.

TEXAS—*Gainesville*

The Gainesville Iris Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society held their annual iris show, May 1, at the Community Center Building. Mrs. A. M. Tallman, Mrs. Robert Barr and Mrs. E. C. Beavers of Fort Worth acted as judges.

The theme of the show "Tables on Parade" was beautifully carried out with varied table settings all using iris arrangements for decoration.

Mrs. Joe Leonard was awarded the Silver Medal; the Bronze Medal was won by Mrs. Harry Spence.

Temple

Temple Iris Society held their "Rainbow Iris Show" at the American Legion Hall, April 18. This was the first show staged by the group, and its success can be attributed to the fine work of the committee which was headed by Mrs. Ralph Hervey. Mrs. M. T. Ney designed the rainbow arc of varied colors of iris to carry out the theme of the show.

Mrs. Gordon Mackey was awarded both the Silver and Bronze Medals, as the exhibitor of the finest specimen in the show and as winner of the most blue ribbons. The prize specimen was a stalk of Elmohr.

Judges were: Mrs. Jeanette Wilks, Miss Willie Birge and Mrs. Ralph E. Cloud, all of Austin, Texas.

Chillicothe

The Chillicothe Garden Club planned an iris show for April 21, but were forced to cancel it because of late freezes which damaged the iris.

VIRGINIA—*Portsmouth*

At the regular spring flower show, staged by the Council of Garden Clubs, entries open to the public (amateur growers), on May 9, the iris section was the most outstanding part of the show. First place was won by Mr. George Bonney, Norfolk, Virginia with a stalk of Treasure Island.

WASHINGTON—*Walla Walla*

The Iris Club of Walla Walla held its third annual iris show in May. The Silver Medal was won by Mrs. Jake Smith, Waitsburg, Washington; the

Bronze Medal was won by Mrs. Albert Haase of Walla Walla.

WISCONSIN—*Milwaukee*

The Wisconsin Iris Society staged their sixteenth annual iris show, June 11, at the Mitchell Park Conservatory, Milwaukee. Artistic arrangements staged in the East Wing of the Conservatory, and Horticultural classes in the West Wing were viewed by 4123 visitors.

Mrs. Wm. Roecker served as AIS judge, assisted by Mr. Alfred Boerner, member of the Milwaukee Park Board, and Mr. Wm. Atwood.

Mrs. Robert Reinhardt, Waukesha, Wisconsin, won the Silver Medal, and Dr. Allan Kriz, Elm Grove, Wisconsin, won the Bronze Medal. Mrs. Ed. Wurst, Milwaukee, won the Tri-color ribbon with a specimen of Jake.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS

GEORGIA—*Griffin*

On April 20 the Federated Garden Clubs of Griffin held their spring flower show which was a most creditable one. Though not strictly an iris show, iris predominated. Modesty prevents the writer saying much about this show. His California Blue was awarded the Tri-color Ribbon, his introduction Good Nature (Gudrun X National White) with its extra large blooms and 4 ft. stem, took the Blue Ribbon as did 10 of his other iris, though he failed to score in the yellow class. Golden Majesty was splendid as was China Maid, Aztec Copper, Golden Madonna and several others.

Macon (Bibb County Show)

The 26th annual Bibb County spring flower show was held on April 25 in Macon at the City Auditorium. While this was not strictly an iris show, iris predominated in the horticultural section. An innovation in the iris judging was the selection of the outstanding specimen iris in the show, Blue Ribbon going to a magnificent Remembrance with Winter Carnival second and Matterhorn third. Honorable mention went to lovely And Thou. Especially good among these outstanding irises were California Peach, The Admiral, Persia

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and Blue Rhythm. Macon exhibited some magnificent iris:

Whites—Matterhorn first, Snow Flurry second, Mount Washington third.

Creams—Arctic first and second, Kalinga third.

Yellows—Golden Majesty, Golden Spike and Happy Days.

Blues—Shining Waters, superbly grown, was first and second, with Sierra Blue third.

Violet—Winneshiek won the ribbon.

Pinks—First was Melitza with its brilliant tangerine beard, second Miss California and Pink Imperial third.

Red-toned Class—(Why judges list

reds when there are no reds is beyond us) Cheerio first, Christabel second, Indian Chief third.

Bicolors—Lothario first, Persia second.

Plicatas—Tiffanja first and second, Los Angeles third.

Blends—Prairie Sunshine first, Dubrovnik second, Tea Rose third.

The judges and other guests enjoyed a most delightful luncheon in the historic old home of Georgia's matchless poet, Sidney Lanier.

—LEWIS H. BECK,
Reg. 5 AIS Judge

CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION AWARDED IN 1950

<i>Name or Number</i>	<i>Originator</i>	<i>Show at which Judged</i>
Mohr Majesty	Walker	Hollywood, Calif.
204-14	Lyon	Hollywood, Calif.
8566	Craig	Hollywood, Calif.
6141-1	Lenz	Hollywood, Calif.
66-3	Childs, Frank	Jenkinsburg, Ga.
120	Childs, Frank	Jenkinsburg, Ga.
50-50	Clevenger	Omaha, Neb. and Kirksville, Mo.
37-337	Ryle, W. H.	Omaha, Neb. and Kirksville, Mo.
50-44	M. D. Wallace	Salt Lake City
50-45	M. D. Wallace	Salt Lake City
45-49	Walker	Los Angeles and Hollywood, Calif.
Linda Leach	MacMillan, W. B.	Lafayette, La.
Greenmohr	Muhlestein	Salt Lake City

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BULLETIN

A *of the* AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

APRIL - 1951

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In April when the irises bloom, Louisiana is also a land of wildflowers. Here are acres of web-cupped spiderlilies (*Hymenocallis*) along the roadside near Monroe.

Caldwell photo

ANNUAL MEETING AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY, 1951

Headquarters, Washington-Youree Hotel
Shreveport, Louisiana

MRS. WATER COLQUITT, *Chairman*

Region 10, will be host to the 1951 annual meeting of the American Iris Society at Shreveport, Louisiana on April 12, 13, 14.

REGISTRATION

Registration begins Thursday morning, April 12 at 8:00 A.M. on the mezzanine floor of the Washington-Youree Hotel. The first garden tour is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. April 12, 1951.

PROGRAM

THURSDAY, April 12—Registration 8:00 A.M. until 12:30 P.M. Buses leave for Arcadia, Louisiana at 1:00 P.M. to visit the Conger Garden. Supper will be served at the Washington-Youree from 6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Beginning at 8:00 P.M. an informal showing of slides and movies will be enjoyed in the Crystal Ball Room of the Washington-Youree Hotel.

The Regional Vice-president's meeting will be Thursday, April 12, 7:00 P.M.

The Board of Director's meeting will be Thursday, April 12, 8:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, April 13—Buses leave the Washington-Youree Hotel at 8:00 A.M. for the first garden tour. Luncheon will be served at the American Legion Club on Cross Lake at 12:00 noon. Buses will leave the Club at 1:00 P.M. for the afternoon tour of gardens. Buses will return to the Washington-Youree Hotel at 4:30 P.M. for the opening of the *Iris Show*, which will be presented by the Shreveport Iris Society, in co-operation with The American Iris Society, Mrs. D. R. Dickinson, president and Mrs. Fred Beck, general chairman.

A Buffet supper will be served in the Crystal Ball Room from 6:00 P.M. until 7:30 P.M. Miss Caroline Dormon will present an illustrated lecture on LOUISIANA IRISES at 8:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, April 14—Buses will leave the Washington-Youree Hotel at 8:00 A.M. for the tour of gardens. At 12:30 P.M. visitors will be the guests of local members for luncheon at the American Legion Club. Buses will leave for the afternoon tour of gardens at 1:45 P.M.

BANQUET

Banquet, 7:30 P.M. in the Crystal Ball Room of the Washington-Youree Hotel.

RESERVATIONS

IF YOU HAVE NOT MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS,
DO SO AT ONCE.

The registration fee will be \$16.00. This includes bus transportation, supper Thursday night, luncheon and supper Friday, and the Banquet on Saturday. Ride the buses, it will be fun! There can be no refund on bus fare to those who drive their own cars. Hotel reservations are most important. Hotel and Auto Court accommodations will be made for you and you will be notified. Write to Mrs. Walter Colquitt, Chairman, 487 Albany Ave., and state the date of arrival, date of leaving, type of accommodations desired and number in party. If you will send your registration fee in advance of your arrival it will eliminate standing in line.

The Washington-Youree Hotel will be headquarters, and other approved hotels are the Jefferson, Inn, Caddo, Gardner, Colonial, Turner, Rex, and Buckhalt. A committee will meet you if you give notification of arrival time.

Bring your prize slides and movies of iris or iris gardens for the Thursday night's Picture Show party.

If you have some iris seedlings or other choice blooms that you wish to display, bring them or have them flown in Air Express and they will be displayed at the Shreveport Iris Society's Iris Show.

SHREVEPORT

Shreveport is the second largest city in Louisiana. Population of the "Metropolitan Area" is estimated at being 155,000.

There are approximately 254 different industrial enterprises in Shreveport, producing more than 700 different products. Metal products industries employ the greatest number of workers, followed in order by the petroleum production and refining, lumber and logging, paper and paper products, food processing, ceramics and glass, lumber products and others.

Shreveport's 115 Church Buildings, some of notable picturesque architectural design, represent 20 religious denominations.

Sidelights in Shreveport

Visit the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum at 3015 Greenwood Road. The natural resources of Louisiana are vividly depicted in dioramas, showing the various scenes in such a realistic way that the visitor carries away a truly comprehensive picture of the many and varied resources of the state.

The Agricultural section shows rice, beef cattle, sugar cane, dairy cattle, cotton, poultry, sheep, swine and sweet potatoes.

The Mineral section graphically illustrates the oil industry, salt, clay and sulphur.

The newest diorama is a replica of the paper and pulp mill at Spring Hill, showing both the inside and outside of the plant.

The forestry diorama is now under construction.

The migratory water fowl group showing the winter concentration of ducks and geese on our coastal marshes is very popular.

The Art gallery of the State Exhibit Museum brings to Shreveport some of the outstanding exhibitions of world famous artists as well as local artists.

Through the courtesy of Mr. R. M. Cooley and Mr. Ed Dickinson the grounds have been beautified with an extensive planting of bearded irises.

Shreveport is very proud of this Museum, and we hope time will permit all visitors to enjoy its wealth of information and beauty.

Fine Foods

Those arriving at the Convention on Wednesday and staying after Saturday will enjoy the atmosphere and food at:

THE CHEF, 519 E. King's Highway. From New Orleans Earnest Palmisano brings the finest in French, Italian and Creole cuisine. Sea Foods specialist.

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NATCHEZ NOTE

Last year the garden committee for "Rosalie," the DAR State Shrine at Natchez, put in their first planting of Louisiana iris. "Rosalie" is one of the fine show-places featured in the Natchez pilgrimage which takes place each March. The garden committee of "Rosalie" is planning to make an outstanding garden at this beautiful ante-bellum home. Iris lovers who in the future will enjoy the nationally renowned Natchez Pilgrimage will have the pleasure of seeing their favorite flower sharing garden space with the camellias, azaleas, and other lovely southern plants.

Many members of the American Iris Society who will attend the Convention in Shreveport in April will probably visit "Rosalie" and other Natchez show-places. The new planting of Louisiana Iris should be blooming about the time of the Convention.—NANCY HARDISON, Tenn.

Plenty to See

CAROLINE DORMON, (La.)

Yes, the big blizzard struck Louisiana, too, with snow and ice to The Gulf. Lush, knee-high foliage of Louisiana iris was whitened, flattened. But now (mid-February), all that has been cut back, and new leaves are pushing up—and so are our hopes. As we have been having hard freezes since November, we think the embryo buds had not started upward. So, if there is no more near-zero weather, there should be plenty of blossoms for our April visitors to see.

As on several occasions in the past, I have been debating taking my Louisiana iris “Up North,” where the poor things will know when proper growing time arrives! Where winters *stay* wintry, they govern themselves accordingly and are not killed back so severely.

In our excitement over “what’s new,” we sometimes overlook some good things. In my own wild gardens here in the sand hills (where space is not a consideration), many old favorites still hold sway. Bayou Vermilion, Homachitto, and Gypsy Red are still outstanding in their color-class; Kramer Yellow, Reflected Light, and Forsythia among yellows; Jeune Fille and Wild Swan in white; and New Orleans, Cajan, and Mary Debaillon, in rose shades. As for blues, the many fine forms of *I. giganteaerulea*, and Cathedral Blue are always beautiful. Faithful old Haile Selassie belongs in a class to himself.

In the last few years some very fine wildlings have been collected. It would be difficult to find anything lovelier than Lockett’s Luck, delicate flesh-pink, with a big wedge-shaped signal. Delta Treasure is an Abbeville, tawny-yellow, of butterfly form. Recently, new fields from Southwest Louisiana have given us magnificent late blues and tremendous whites. “Cameron White” is as big as Wild Swan, and very showy.

Some of the earlier named hybrids are proving their worth by their repeating good performance in a number of gardens—the best test of their worth. Among these are Bayou Sunset, Caddo, Saucy Minx, Cherry Bounce, J. K. Small, June Clouds, Southern Moon, Micco, and Edith Dupre. The last-named has small flowers, but is brilliantly colored and very floriferous.

And those hybrids just being introduced! Early Morn and Pale Hands have huge flat flowers in flesh-pink and cream; Ruth Dormon and Elizabeth Randolph are clear soft pink; Angel Fare is a big, flaring, deeper pink self; Gay Deceiver is a ruffled combination of yellow, apricot, and soft brown; Plum Good and Royal Gem are deep red and violet, both with fine wedge signals; Blue Chip and Midshipman

are wonderful new blues of flat form. Accolade cannot be classified as to color, for it is opalescent—flowers are not large, but it is quite floriferous. Spring Revery is another that is difficult to classify, but apricot is probably the best descriptive term. The Khan is a big black-violet, with a half-thumb-sized signal in brilliant yellow. Sunny and Dixie Deb are flat yellows in an exquisite shade. Rose of Abbeville is just what the name implies, huge and ruffled.

This, of course, is not a full list—some of the best may have been omitted by accident. Then there is the “hope chest”—those hybrids which will bloom this spring for the first time! Most of the growers in Louisiana have been making crosses, and some have made it the subject of much study. But as has been pointed out before, one can never be sure of results—the children can throw back to remote ancestors. Rose of Abbeville X Thistletuft *should* be a huge pink, but I have myself all braced to see a washed-out lavender, and have my right arm ready to snatch it up and throw it on the funeral pyre. (I keep a brush-heap burning for this vicious purpose!) But among the fade-outs, some jewels will gleam forth bright and clear, and few things can match the excitement of watching for these. This year, our visitors from afar will be here to watch with us.

Something not often mentioned, but almost as lovely as the iris themselves, are the companion plants that flower at the same time. Right here I must interpolate that I do not agree with the gardeners—mostly men—who do not like white with colored flowers. To my taste, nothing is lovelier than old-fashioned snowball and tall double white deutzia used as background planting. Among native things, the ethereal laciness of Fringe Tree is what makes my Bay Garden charming. Usually, the white gleam of dogwood is past by the time the iris are in full swing, but the late hawthornes are always dependable. Among these, Crataegus spathulata flowers at just the right time. It is a low spreading tree, with tiny leaves and masses of small creamy-white blossoms. Scattered clumps of white violets and Atamasco atamasco (bulbous) are lovely with gay colored Louisiana irises. Native Hymenocallis and Crinum also add an ethereal note. If visitors who come along coast routes hold back on speed, they will see glorious sheets of the two latter in wet places near highways. In Mary Debaillon's garden, Rosa laevigata (*true* Cherokee Rose) and white wistaria formed exquisite backdrops.

Of course, some colors are fine for blending into the garden picture. Low-growing, evergreen, “Blue Phlox,” *P. divaricata*, is much used as a border plant in Louisiana, and is very lovely with all colors. The soft pink of Beauty Bush, and the delicate yellow of Rosa hugonis and Harison's Yellow rose are exquisite with blue, white, and lavender iris. These three, though, must be on banks behind the Louisianas, for these shrubs want good drainage.



Left—The sensational
BAYOU SUNSET.

Right—Impudent
SAUCY MINX.

Visitors from the North who see sheets of lavender water-hyacinths for the first time will find the sight breath-taking. And those who take the hill routes will see (if they take time to look!) sheets of wild verbenas (several species), wild phlox, and feathery masses of the above-mentioned Fringe Tree. And I forgot to tell of dainty “kittentails” (well-named), *Itea virginica*, which hangs its fluffy racemes over small streams—and which has the good taste to bloom with the bewitching Louisiana irises.

* * * *

BULLETINS AVAILABLE

The BULLETIN is advised by Mr. Walter Timmerman that he has a complete file of AIS Bulletins from and including issue No. 1 to the current issue No. 120. Mr. Timmerman would like to dispose of this set of Bulletins as a complete set. Persons interested should contact Mr. Timmerman direct at 2017 Freeman, Kansas City, Kansas.

The following issues are available from the Secretary's office in Nashville at 50¢ per copy. Issues marked with an asterisk * are very limited in number. If you intend to complete your file of BULLETINS we earnestly advise that you do so immediately.

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Once in a Lifetime

GEDDES DOUGLAS, (Tenn.)

If you should pay a visit to the Douglasses in mid-May, during the daylight hours, the chances are that I would meet you at the cattle-gap and without further ado, lead you straight to the vegetable garden. There we would find in full bloom a row of about a hundred seedlings which are now established clumps. If you were just another flower gardener, upon seeing these iris you would probably remark on the variety of the colors there and then stoop down for a strawberry from the adjacent row. But if you happened to be an irisarian or more particularly an iris breeder you wouldn't even know there were strawberries in the next row, even if they were as big as goose eggs. You would notice first of all that these seedlings were bitones and bicolors mainly in tints and shades of pink and red. Then you would realize that most of these flowers were rather large, some of them tailored, others ruffled and all with clean hafts. Your memory would begin clicking as you thought over similar iris of yesteryear—Anne Leslie, Paillaise, Marquita, the more recent Shannopin—all these would come to mind only to be discarded. Then you would think of Extravaganza and its grandparent, Shah Jehan and the image would crystalize. You would then turn to me and say just as other breeders have said a thousand times to still other breeders, "These are mighty interesting seedlings you have here, Douglas, where did you get them?" You would know from the look on my face that I was as proud as punch of them as with studied casualness I would reply, "Well now, that is a long story. Let's go up to the house and get a cup of coffee and I'll tell you about them."

The story behind these bitones dates back several years. In 1940 I crossed Adios by Cortez and in 1942 I was greatly surprised to find a near amoena blooming among its several brothers and sisters, all variegatas. This iris subsequently registered as Extravaganza, was directly responsible for a new approach to the breeding of amoenas and related types of iris such as neglectas, bitones and bicolors. To understand why these types are now appearing for me and for other breeders using Extravaganza, it is necessary to know something about this iris and, more important still, about Shah Jehan, for the amoena factor must necessarily come from this side of the breeding. There are no amoenas in the background of Cortez.

This statement is the very premise upon which all future speculation must be based, for nothing about the parentage of Shah Jehan can be proven beyond what is already known. On the other hand, while much of what follows must necessarily be pure speculation, there is no need to

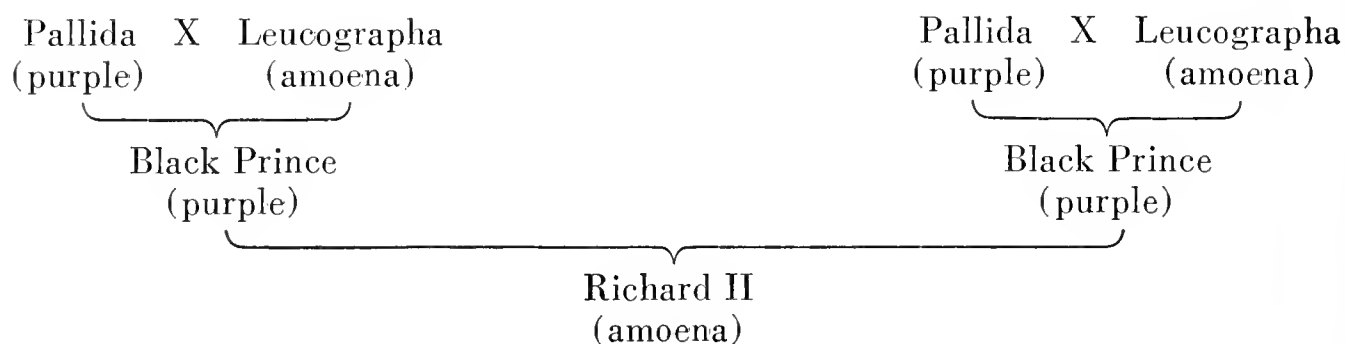
discount the value of good reasoning. It is necessary to begin with the hypothesis that amoenas do not just happen from some happy combination of factors. Amoenas result only when the factor is inherited.

The literature on this point is highly confusing. Beginning with Dykes himself various writers have described the amoena as "variegata irises with a white ground instead of yellow..."¹ The more modern explanation is that an amoena is merely a variegata, where for some reason, the gene for yellow has dropped out. The logical inference from this is that this particular phenomenon may be expected to happen at any time if variegatas are bred in sufficient quantities to allow for the law of probability.

However such is not the case. Thousands of variegata seedlings have been raised during the century of iris breeding subsequent to the listing of certain garden varieties raised from seed by the Frenchman Lemon in 1840. As far as I can ascertain there is no recorded case of an amoena having come from uncontaminated variegata breeding. Further, a search of the parentages in the Check List of all of the known amoenas has failed to disclose a single case of an amoena having come from two variegatas unless there was an amoena in the immediate background. The answer, I believe, is that all amoenas have descended from a single clone representing the original amoena. This is substantiated by Dykes² who wrote as follows:

"I. variegata has been known, even in the wild state, to give rise to sports such as the Hungarian Leucographa, in which the yellow ground is replaced by white, and when such forms are crossed with the purple I. pallida, it is easy to see how our garden forms have arisen. If confirmation of this theory is wanting, it is to be found in the fact that seeds of the well known 'Black Prince' self fertilized, gave rise to 'Richard II,' with its pure white standards, and to other forms with the yellow standards of I. variegata."

To visualize what Mr. Dykes wrote, consider the following diagram:



It is a great pity that Mr. Dykes did not give the number of not only the variegatas that came along with the single amoena, but also the number of the pallida and squalens types.

¹ Dykes on Irises, p. 70.

² *ibid.*, p. 252.

I do not mean to infer that all amoenas came to us by way of this particular strain. Far from it, for it is a fact that there were many amoena forms that were common garden irises long before Mr. Dykes ever made a cross. But, these cultivated forms may well have come from seeds originally gathered from the wild, Hungarian Leucographa.

Whether this amoena factor is a dominant or a recessive must be left for the geneticist to determine; my purpose is merely to ferret out the facts and with this in mind I would like to examine the possible background of Shah Jehan.

Ancestry of Shah Jehan

I learned something of the history of The Shah quite by accident. In the January Bulletin we ran a reprint of an article by Mr. Lawrence Neel. In subsequent correspondence Mr. Neel wrote me that with his father he had raised the variety Shah Jehan when he lived in British Columbia. The seed pod from which Shah came was set on Ambassadeur but no record was kept of the pollen parent. However, it is possible to theorize on the identity of this other parent. To quote Mr. Neel: "Like you, I also have devoted a lot of thought to the possible other parent of Shah Jehan, and I have sometimes thought it might have been B. Y. Morrison which was in the row next to the Ambassadeur plant which set the pod. We also grew Shekinah which I think was the only yellow we then sported. Having only my memory to rely on I can't think of any more likely varieties than those two for we didn't have a large collection. I know we had Pallida Dalmatica, Princess Beatrice, Aphrodite, Asia, Lord of June, Ballerine, Neptune, Isoline and others but I can't picture them going into the Shah's make-up. Ambassadeur is, I believe, a polyploid having between 50 and 60 chromosomes and from what I remember we only ever had the one pod set. It contained 12 seeds, I think, of which 5 or 6 germinated and the whole lot were almost identical."

There are only two ways in which the pod may have been set on Ambassadeur. Either it was by self pollination or by the pollen of some other flower. In this connection Dr. L. F. Randolph reports, "There is no *a priori* reason why extra-chromosome plants as Ambassadeur should self either more or less easily than varieties with the balanced Euploid number. In looking over my crossing records I find I haven't selfed many of the 50's.

"Two attempts to self Dominion (50), including a total of four flowers selfed, failed to give me any seed, also Directeur Pinelle (50) selfed two blooms, no seed. But At Dawning (selfed one flower) gave me 45 seeds."

I prefer to dismiss the theory of self pollination for though many iris are not fertile to their own pollen, when an iris is selfed it usually

means that its two reproductive functions are compatible and a normal pod of a goodly number of seeds may be expected. According to Mr. Neel this was not the case. The pod contained but few seeds and only a portion of them germinated. This fact indicates a cross involving dissimilar chromosome arrangements in the two parents. Therefore, I think it is in order to examine the possibilities that might have been expected if the other parent of Shah Jehan had been one of the several irises mentioned above which were in the planting with Ambassador.

For obvious reasons I think the species *pallida* and its selected form Princess Beatrice may be eliminated immediately. Aphrodite merits small consideration for two reasons. First, it takes several generations to make the transfer from a self to the amoena pattern and we are dealing with an F_1 problem. Second, Aphrodite being one of the so-called "pallida pinks" has little if any inheritance from a possible amoena parent.

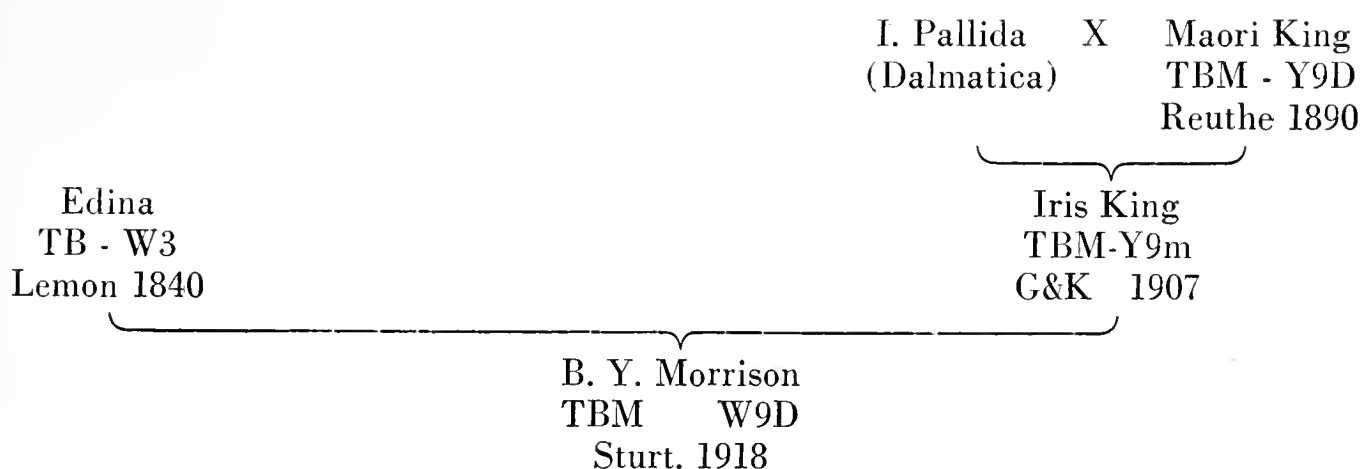
Asia presents more of a problem. Its color pattern (S3M) bears some similarity to Shah Jehan (S9D) which is translated squalens, blue bicolor, medium, and squalens, red bicolor, dark. But, in the last twenty years Asia has been used repeatedly in amoena crosses and has failed to produce amoenas in the F_1 generation.

Lord of June, Yeld 1911, TB-M-B3M is a strong blue bitone. Its color pattern carries a strong inheritance from its pod parent the tetraploid species Amas. It has failed to be of any value in the production of amoenas. These same objections may be applied to both Ballerine (TBM-B3M) Vilmorin, seedling year 1909, and Neptune (TBM-B3M) Yeld 1907. These irises are probably F_1 seedlings of the familiar formula (*pallida*-variegata hybrid) X Asiatic tetraploid species. The possibility of any amoena inheritance from such breeding would be very remote.

There is little chance that the variety Isoline could possibly have entered the picture in spite of a propitious classification—S9L. Actually it was a rose-red blend, very large and tall, showing all the earmarks of the F_1 hybrid involving *pallida* and either Trojana or Cypriana. Further, throughout the literature it is reported as being sterile, which is probably explained by the fact that it is a triploid with 36 chromosomes.

This brings me to the last possibility on the list, B. Y. Morrison, an amoena which is a diploid with 25 chromosomes produced by Miss Grace Sturtevant in 1918. For its time it was a very large amoena, holding to the *pallida* side. Its standards were very white in New England, varying somewhat in other soils. Its falls were very velvety blue-purple.

The derivation of B. Y. Morrison is as follows:



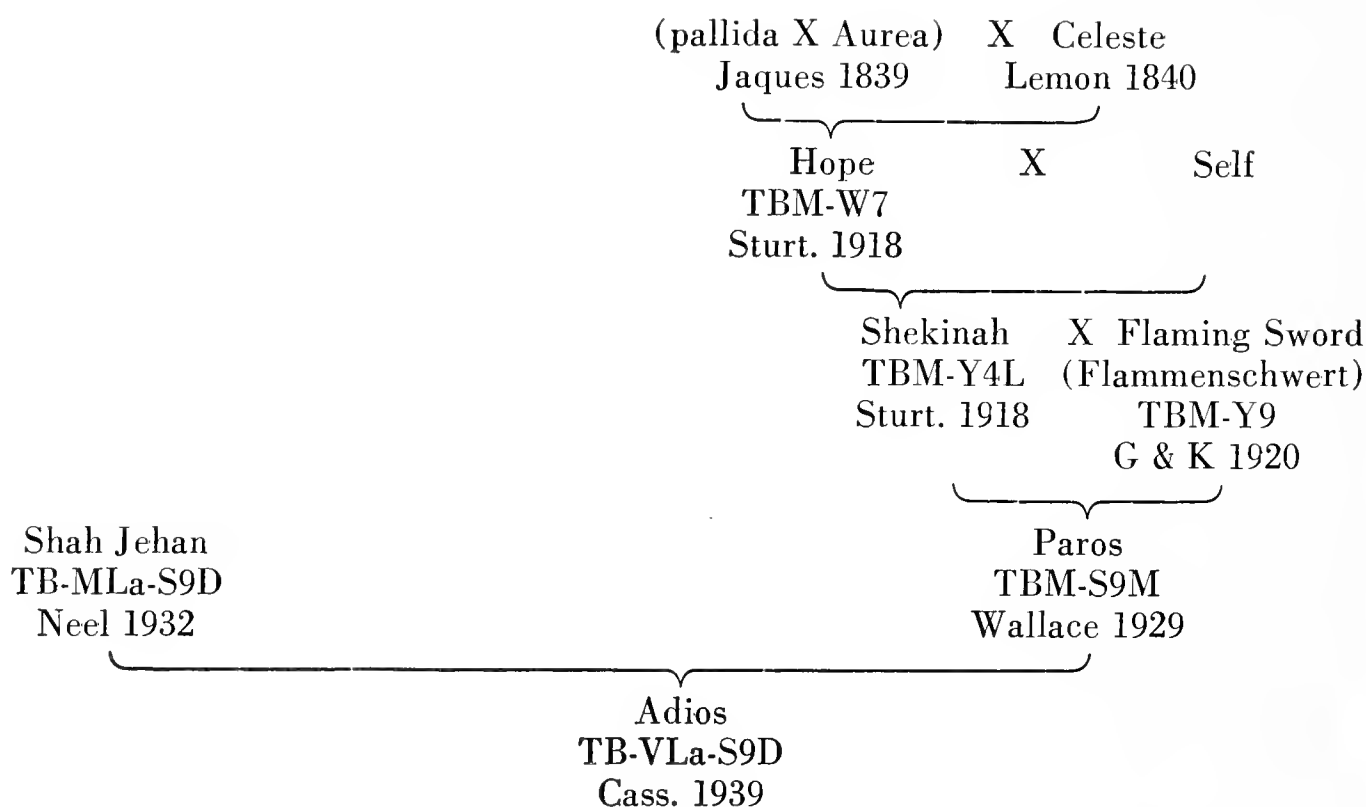
To postulate that Shah Jehan came from the cross Ambassador X B. Y. Morrison is not unreasonable. Ambassador was a variegata blend and a blended amoena such as Shah Jehan may well have resulted from it when crossed with the amoena B. Y. Morrison. To repeat my original premise, color patterns do not just happen in iris breeding. They result from inherited tendencies, and from my experience and the experience of others with which I am familiar I think I can definitely say that amoenas are more apt to occur when the factors for this characteristic are present in accumulated amounts.

This would be possible through B. Y. Morrison and the old diploid Lemon variety Edina, an iris which was described to me by Bob Sturtevant as a “sawed-off runt with narrow falls, twelve inches high, but with clean, pure white standards.”

Importance of Amoena Background

I do not think the amoena side of the parentage can be overemphasized. Iris with white standards are very difficult to breed. It is extremely important that a parent with white standards be in the not too distant background. Since the standards of Extravaganza are almost white, and many of its offspring show this characteristic to a marked degree, it seems to me to be logical that an iris with white standards must be behind it. Mr. Neel thinks that the amoena tendencies may have been inherited from Iris King. This I doubt and prefer to pin-point this tendency as being from Edina, and though Shah Jehan is far from a true amoena in appearance itself, its reactions indicate that it carries the factor to a marked degree.

I had always hoped that some day the parentage of Extravaganza could be cleared up and its grandparent Paros presented another blind spot. Knowing that Paros was a Wallace introduction, I asked Mr. Neel to contact Mr. Wallace and find out its parentage if possible. Mr. Wallace was able to supply the missing parentage as follows.

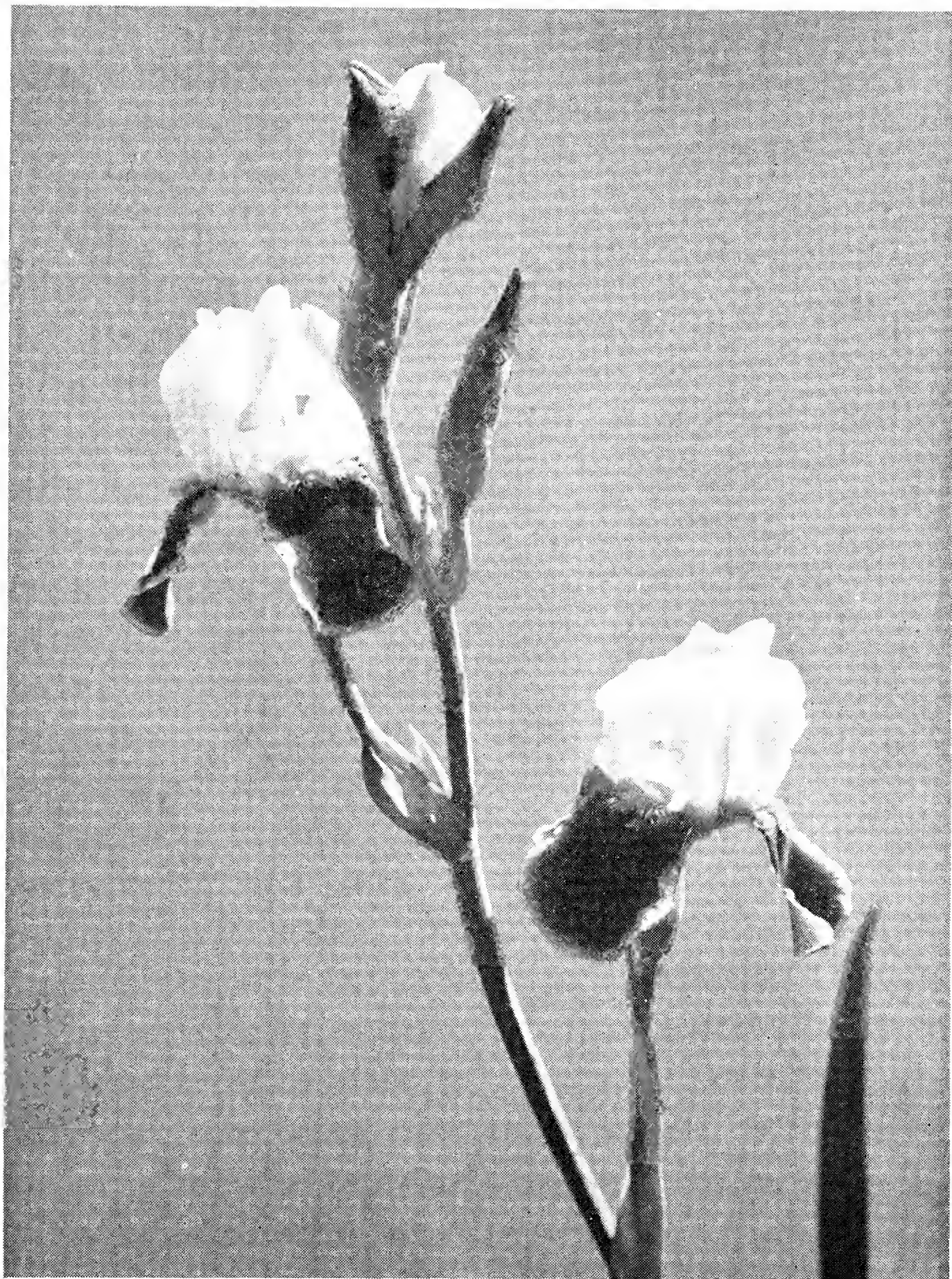


Cortez is a Nesmith iris and is what I would term a weak variegata. That very fact I think adds to the tendency of Extravaganza to throw amoenas. Had Cortez been a strongly colored variegata, this tendency would be transmitted to its F_1 and F_2 offspring to the exclusion of the amoena factor.

It is quite apparent that Cortez came from a line of breeding designed to produce a yellow, first by Miss Sturtevant who made a very scientific approach in the production of Reverie, and second through breeding and selection by Mrs. T. A. Nesmith involving the three yellow irises Reverie, Sunlight and Coronation.

It was obvious from the very first that Extravaganza should be of value in amoena breeding. It had a heritage of good size from both parents. While the parentage of Ambassadeur is not known, it is certain that Vilmorin had access to Mesopotamica and/or Cyprina, and Ambassadeur, a polyploid, must have resulted from a cross involving derivatives of variegata and pallida and one of these Asiatic tetraploids. Cortez inherits its size from Cypriana by way of Shelford Chieftain, one of the original Foster tetraploid X diploid hybrids. The ingredients were all there; on one side was a variegata blend (Adios) with a strong amoena inheritance; on the other side a weak variegata with a heritage of size and pale coloring. Crossed with variegatas Extravaganza will produce clear and blended seedlings of the same color pattern holding closely to the red side. Crossed with a blue and white amoena it will produce amoenas, variegatas and intermediate types, but the amoenas will equal or slightly outnumber the variegatas.

Mr. Jesse E. Wills had been working with amoenas many years before Extravaganza appeared. He had used the conventional approaches, i.e., (amoena X blue bitone), (amoena X amoena), (amoena X blue self)



Number 827A, shown above, has been registered as Bright Hour. It is from Cook 129-42 X Criterion (635A—Extravaganza X Wabash).

• —Photo by Cassebeer

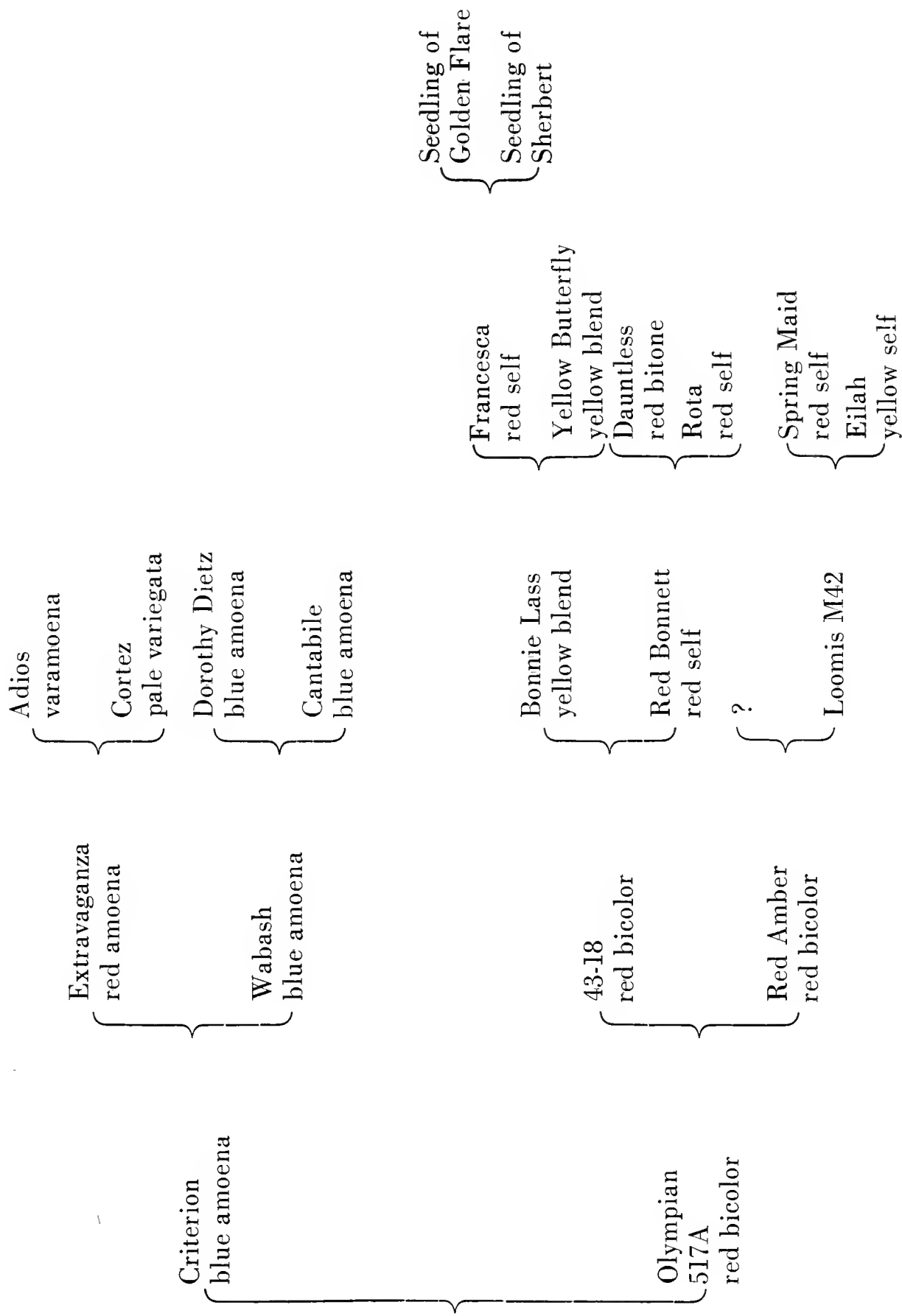
and (amoena X neglecta). While many amoenas resulted none of these lines seemed to offer a satisfactory approach. When Extravaganza first bloomed I pointed out to Mr. Wills its possibilities and on the first bloomstalk in 1942 set a pod using the pollen of Wabash. From 41 seed grew one seedling which subsequently died. Encouraged by Jesse's example—he has the patience of Job and has grown thousands of amoena seedlings—in 1943 I shifted to the variegata side and crossed all available blooms with the French iris Paillaisse. Also I crossed a sister seedling of Extravaganza with Mme. Maurice Lassailly. These crosses produced only blended variegatas and neglecta types.

In 1944 I returned to the original idea and recrossed Extravaganza X Wabash. From forty-one seeds I got six seedlings. One of these turned out to be a huge iris with pale yellow standards and blue-purple falls with a wide band of yellow at the edge. One was a bright red and yellow variegata. Three were amoenas, one without increase that was later saved by a hormone treatment. Of these three, Gaylord has been named and introduced. No. 635A, was used for breeding because of its ability to set seed either way. It has since been registered as Criterion. The third amoena, a very late bloomer, is still under observation. It took four years for these six seedlings to germinate and bloom but once this was accomplished the amoena stalemate was finally broken. Here for the first time since the production of Wabash we have something besides Wabash to work with.

At about this time the AIS Scientific Committee headed by Dr. L. F. Randolph undertook a very ambitious breeding program which included an approach to the amoena problem. Dr. Randolph volunteered to germinate my amoena seeds of 1946 by the excised embryo method. The following crosses were made and the seed sent to Dr. Randolph.

	<i>Crosses</i>	<i>Takes</i>	<i>Seed</i>
Extravaganza X Three Cheers	4	1	57
(Extravaganza X Paillaisse) X (Extravaganza X Wabash)	2	2	91
(Extravaganza X Paillaisse) X Wabash	2	2	35
Three Sisters Wabash	4	1	27
(Extravaganza X Wabash) X sib.	2	1	21
Brising X Wabash	1	1	5
Rheintochter X (Shining Waters X Wabash)	2	2	16
Mme. M. Lassailly X Louise Blake	4	2	58
Extravaganza X Wabash	6	5	138
(Shining Waters X Wabash) X Wabash	12	1	15
Cortez X Wabash	4	3	53
(Extravaganza X Paillaisse) X (Extravaganza X Wabash)	1	1	50
Cook 129-42 X (Extravaganza X Wabash)	3	1	23
Rubient X Wabash	3	2	37
Extravaganza X Cook 54-42	2	1	14
Cook 22-45 X (Extravaganza X Wabash)	2	1	27
(Red Amber X 43-18) X Wabash	3	2	62
Extravaganza X Marquita	1	1	31
(Extravaganza X Paillaisse) X Wabash	1	1	47

QUEENS TASTE
red bitone

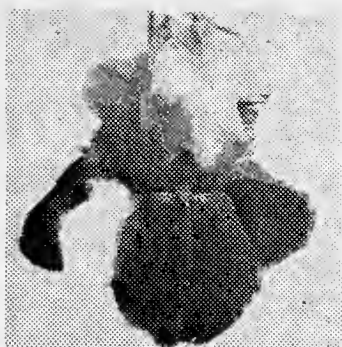


Queen's Taste is the most likely looking seedling from the vegetable garden. It is rather large, tall, ruffled, and has light blue-pink standards with bright, blended rosy-red falls.

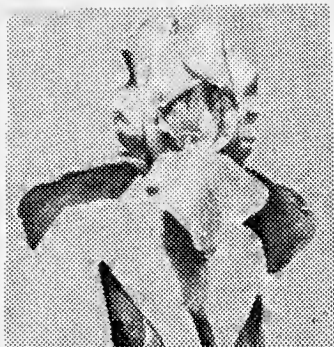
By means of excising the embryos every viable seed is germinated and it is possible to see the complete spread of a cross, something impossible when the seed are germinated naturally. The seedlings from the above crosses bloomed in time for the 1948 AIS Convention in Nashville, and from this batch of seedlings came at least three valuable amoenas and two variegatas. The best amoena was named Bright Hour and came from cross 827 which was Cook 129-42 X Criterion (Extravaganza X Wabash).

In the meantime I had decided upon a two fold program. First it seemed logical to line breed the Extravaganza X Wabash seedlings. Dozens of crosses failed to produce a pod. This lack of fertility has been one of the most exasperating problems in amoena breeding. In crossing iris in general one may expect a percentage of around 50% of the crosses to "take." Not so with amoenas. As a guess less than 5% of amoena crosses produce seed. The percentage of amoena "takes" in the 1946 crosses was the highest I have ever experienced and very unusual. Even after seed are produced the breeder's troubles are not over. Germination of amoena seed is very slow. Many seed that have perfectly healthy embryos never come up. Only by the excised embryo method is it possible to explore the full extent of a cross.

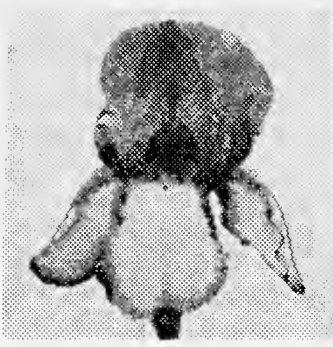
In the second project I was more successful. Still holding to the theory that the formula amoena X bitone was feasible, I set out to find the biggest red bitone I could find, one which contained a minimum of yellow. There was no theory or genetics connected with this selection. It was simply what my old friend Mr. T. A. Washington was wont to call "the fist and skull method." I settled on one of my own seedlings named Olympian which is an enormous, tall, light pink and rose blended bitone. On one side of its parentage is my old 43-18 which comes from Bonnie Lass X Red Bonnet. I've always liked Red Bonnet much better than its Dykes Medal sister seedling Rosy Wings. On the other side is the Loomis iris Red Amber which has a heritage of great size and good branching which goes back to Spring Maid and Eilah. This brings us to the vegetable garden. In one or two more generations I have high hopes of combining these bitones with the pure amoenas and some time, somehow an iris with pure white standards and bright rose-red falls should result. If and when it comes it should be a big one, with lots of branches and good substance, and so help me when I get it, I'm going to quit and take up something easy and quick to get done with—like breeding century plants, for instance!



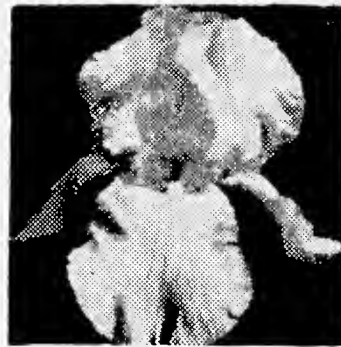
Aztec Indian



Benediction



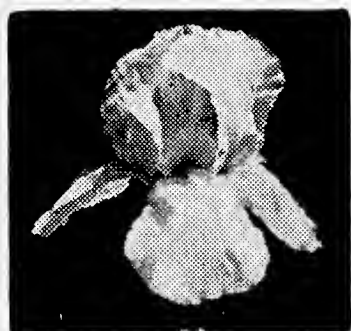
Masked Ball



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Mohr Progress in 1950

JOHN J. OHL, (Kansas)

On a recent visit to Dr. Loomis' garden we saw many new things in his Mohr line of iris. The outstanding one was a huge yellow self. Its color is pale but it is quite onco. There were two small yellow ones and all three were good breaks. One had a blue blaze at the end of the beard. There was a very pale bud again, so perhaps another "Parachute" type and a couple of the grey toned ones. The remainder were the familiar rusty toned ones like lighter Elmohr. Few had the form of Elmohr though.

The one Dr. Loomis calls Sandy is a fine brown toned seedling of Elmohr and Golden Majesty and quite onco. It has flaring form and fine substance. Another Elmohr by Sable seedling is really fine. It is similar to Elmohr but almost as dark as Sable with Elmohr substance. So far I've not seen it very tall. A sister was a white self but smaller though little onco showed. Dr. Loomis has a small clean white Elmohr also.

Parachute #2 is as large as Elmohr in my own garden and nearer to white than #1. Also it has the same shape. #1 is whiter in Dr. Loomis' garden; #3 is much bluer, but not so blue as Blumohr (Marx) which is very fine and late. Those two blue Mohrs of Dr. Loomis are much more lavender and the big one is huge. In fact, it reminds one of a Jap iris when the standards flop open. The Doctor has an exact duplicate of William Mohr among his seedlings and a plicata, but this one has very poor substance.

I saw several Elmohr seedlings at Lincoln's gardens which were right good but not too much onco in most of them. They all seemed to be very vigorous growers with broad foliage which would indicate less susceptibility to leaf spot than F_1 crosses of William Mohr.

In my own garden I got to study Mohr Beauty which appears to be quite onco in bloom but not so in rhizome and foliage—thus an easier grower. It was winter damaged. Charley Lewis has a huge tall rosy one in Rose Mohr. It has flaring, slightly ruffled falls on a 40-inch branched stem. It is unusual coming from Ormohr X Red Valor and very good. These Ormohr seedlings all seem to carry a smooth lacquer-like finish and very thick substance. White Leather is very fine here, but being white and without veining, one doesn't suspect onco blood. Every Ormohr seedling I've tried will carry seed rather easily except Tutone Mohr which is hard to set. All have mildly fertile pollen, too. Tutone Mohr is the first real bicolor, but the falls are a bit too long for the standards, and it doesn't have very good shape. Don Waters has probably gotten the best break in pink coloring from Ormohr X

Majenica. This one is really a honey for clean color, but a slow grower and does not have the Mohr flaring form. It sets seed very easy, but Eupogon type seed.

Tom Craig's Heigho, Peg Dabagh and Hurricane are all very fine, well-branched stems and crowd Jory's Blue Elegance and Morning Blue in quality. These, of course, are from Capitola pollen, so get the branching from their Eupogon parent, while the onco is from Capitola. They are also better growers than direct William Mohr offspring.

The new Jory browns and grey toned ones are very interesting and vigorous growers. Moab failed to bloom but is supposed to be the brownest and most interesting, but if it beats Gaza or Hebron it will really be worth waiting for, as both these are unusual and fine. Canaan, Askalon and Mt. Sinai were good too, but much like results Dr. Loomis has in his grey group. Mt. Ararat didn't look onco at all, and was a blue and white plicata. It is from Grace Mohr X Miss Muffet, so one would expect lots of onco.

A whole lot of Ormaco seedlings indicate that it doesn't throw any Mohr influence at all. The three Illusion seedlings all show some onco influence but rather weak.

I managed to get Ormaco crossed with one of its own seedlings here, and have three seedlings that should bloom in 1951. The fourth was a clear medium yellow self, and perhaps a little onco showed. Anyway I shall save it to cross on Mohr Beauty to try to clear up the yellow or get different tones of tans through its use on Elmohr or Ormohr.

Miss Muffet Seedling Similar to Susiana

I was finally able to bloom a Miss Muffet seedling crossed by a yellow seedling of Jory's.¹ This had brown standards and falls a bit darker with a big purple blotch, otherwise no onco showed in the plant. It tucked its falls under like Susiana does, so is no good except for breeding on the stiff horizontal flaring-fall sorts.

I bloomed several Intermezzo seedlings but these too fail to show any onco influence. They do have substance and all have flaring form. One was the purest grey self I've ever seen, but the veining is coarse.

Of all the stuff Aylett sent only Mohrduke and Try Again showed some onco. The rest were mere trash. Not one was comparable to our American Mohrs but maybe when better grown they will improve.

Seeing that yellow of Chet Tompkins from Ormohr X Morocco Rose was a surprise and hard to believe. It may be a good back breeder though. Chet sent it down with a couple of other Elmohr seedlings of Vivian Christiansen. I didn't see these.

¹Jory Yellow seedling ((Grace Mohr X——) X Capitola). This is a straight Eupogon in all appearances, and rather tender here. Sets seed on everything I try it on but refuses to carry many pods.

To date I've flowered only Marx seedlings (Suez X Suez). It is onco but very poor, nevertheless it appears the cross is true as everything else I've seen from Suez is straight pogon and usually very poor. Suez X Spanish Peaks gave a white with extremely long falls. Elmohr X Spanish Peaks produced the same dog ear falls, very poor. Elmohr seedlings are improving in quality for some reason I don't understand. Its first offspring were terrible, now at least 50% are presentable iris. Possibly some gene adjustment has occurred.

Anita Catherine is straight Eupogon and not too good here. It is a bit tender but still grows better than Helen McGregor which refuses to do anything in our open garden.

It seems there are some unusual gene combinations in the last three or four years, because Dr. Loomis got three yellows, after using the same yellow iris pollen for many years. Milliken's "Mohr Beauty" came about this time and is yellow. Tell Muhlestein got a yellow out of Elmohr X a Hall pink, and Hugo Wall, here in Wichita, got a yellow direct from William Mohr. Then there was Dr. Loomis' brown "Sandy" from Elmohr X Golden Majesty and someone in Oklahoma had a yellow from Elmohr X Berkeley Gold. And I got a clear yellow from (Ormaco X (Ormaco X a white)).

There could have been a bit more added to that last chapter too. I've found very early morning crossing is far better than waiting until 9 or 10 A.M. but I used dry pollen gathered early the day before. I wrote P. R. Johnson this information in 1948. He tried it in 1949 with equally good results.

Many Mohr Seeds Lost

It is a fact that Mohr seed pods dry up early and I'll venture to say that as many William Mohr seed have been lost or thrown away as have been planted, simply because the people don't realize those shriveled up dry pods might hold one or two viable seed. Even very tiny seed often grow if plenty of care is given the weak seedlings.

Another point I've noticed is that practically every F₂ Mohr hybrid has quite fertile pollen when used on other Mohrs. Occasionally Elmohr pollen is fertile, and that one seedling from Congres X Elmohr I saved is very much onco. But it's not a very good iris, and is of interest only to prove the cross actually was accomplished. Dozens of Congres seedlings I've bloomed are straight Eupogon. Now I have (Congres X Capitola) and (Congres X Mohrloff) seedlings which may bloom in 1951. Congres has some onco blood in it, and shows it.

I would advise cold frame planting, since I've learned what leaf-spot can do the past two years. Our late spring weather has been very wet and I lost hundreds of tiny seedlings out in the open garden.

I ran across a Mr. P. R. Johnson in Washington State who has grown

and bloomed over 300 direct William Mohr seedlings with results similar to those of Dr. Loomis. He had a reddish one according to Bob Schreiner and a copper toned one. He is recrossing the one-half William Mohr line. Have no report on 1950 results of bloom or seed from him.

Tell's Green Mohr is a color which will appeal to only a few being a dull grey green mixture but with good substance.

Elf (Loomis) is a flaring, shorter, smoother Lady Mohr with the most fertile pollen of all iris. A direct William Mohr seedling referred to earlier as a brown. Dr. Loomis says, "Elf will set seed on a telephone pole." Anyway he got old Marquita to carry four pods from Elf pollen and stranger still at least half of the seedlings that bloomed show onco blood and resemble Elf color. In growth they are all Eupogon.

Maybe Elf is our answer to a future breeder. Anyway a few more years will tell us something as Dr. Loomis has several hundred seedlings both from Elf and Elf's pollen. Some Elf X Elf will be interesting. And as to hardiness, it's sure to be O. K. while the Purissima X Capitola line is not too hardy. Capitola is quite hardy but too early in bloom to use in our own locality. Our atmosphere is damp so storing pollen isn't very satisfactory here.

LYON INTRODUCES IN 1951

DOUGLASIANA TYPES

- AMIGUITA (Niess '51) Similar to AMIGO, we have named this superb iris "LITTLE FRIEND." White Standards, Purple Falls. 12 in. H. C. 1949 \$4.00
- GRAY DAWN (Curtis '51) Orchid Sprite X Yellow Opal. Gray, lightly touched with maroon and turquoise. Smooth as satin. 12 in. \$3.50

LOUISIANA IRIS

- CANDLES (DORMON '51). Showy flat flowers of Amaranth—red. Styles, yellow, signal patch, bright gold. Large, 5½ in. flowers are borne on 24 in. stems. \$5.00
- GREEN LUSTRE (Neiss '51) LOVELY, UNIQUE! Medium sized flowers of light URANIUM green. Signal patch is light buttercup yellow, faintly edged with blue \$7.50
- SAUCY MINX (DORMON '51) IMPUDENT, UPSTANDING and RUFFLED! Flowers 5½ in. of bright rosy-red, shading INWARDS on the segments to amber and soft yellow. Experts call this the FINEST Louisiana Iris \$5.00

TALL BEARDED IRIS

- THE MAD HATTER (David Lyon, '51) Tall, velvety, deep maroon. Falls semi-flaring, Standards arched. Good substance. Fragrant and late blooming \$20.00

CATALOG ON REQUEST

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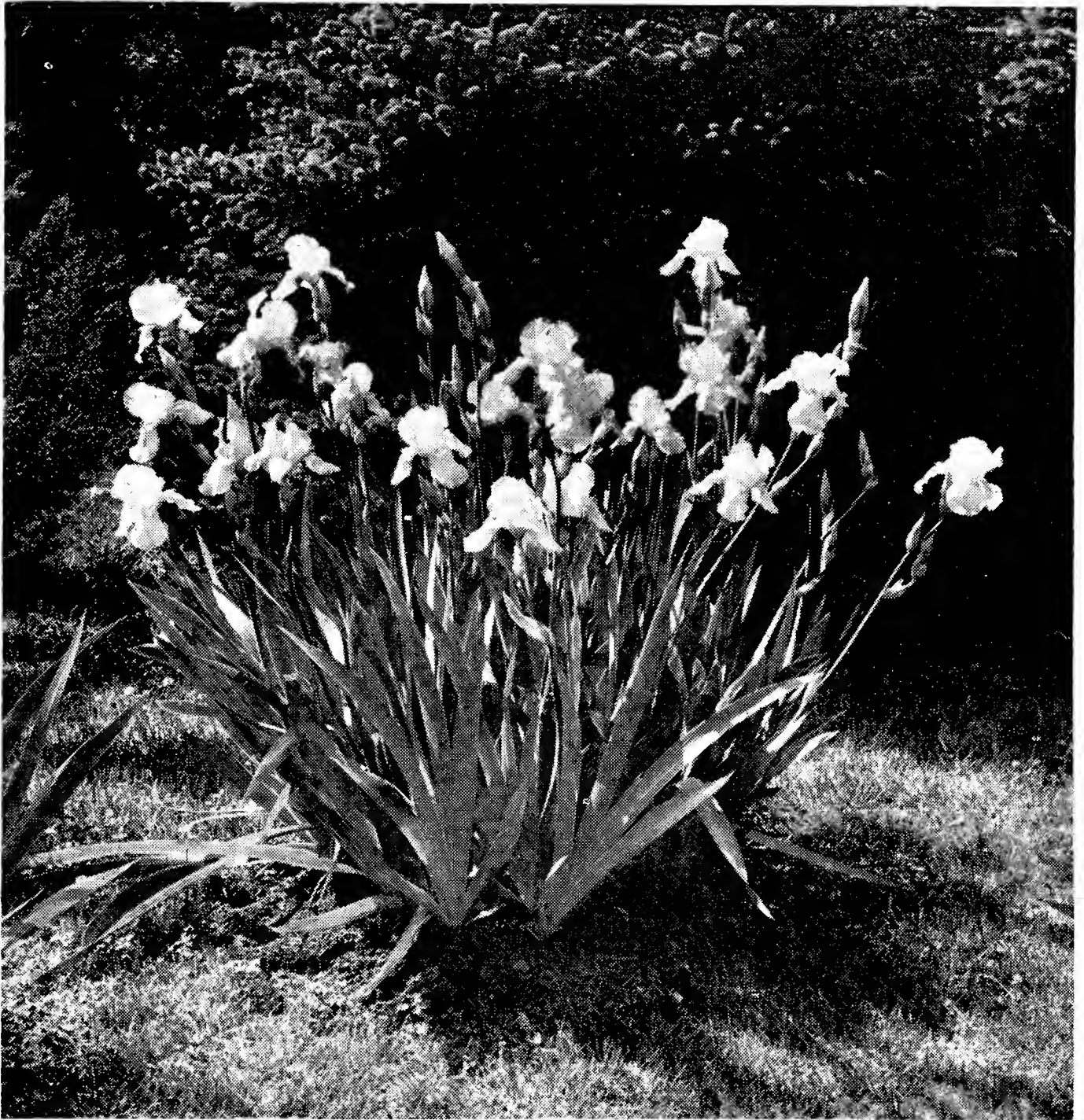
Tricks for Old and New Dogs

GEDDES DOUGLAS, (Tenn.)

As time goes on, I find that an avowed intention and a set opinion are two things very subject to change. Just let me say that I positively am NOT going to do something or other and invariably I will have to do it, or vice versa. Just let me say that this or that is so or going to be or not be, and invariably I will have to backtrack and reverse myself. There seems to be a certain perversity indigenous to the way things happen in the simple progress of events. So it was with me and photography.

When I first began raising flowers, people came to my garden with gadgets hanging around their necks, pockets bulging with the left-overs and spent their time not in patient and pleasant contemplation, which should be the natural reaction to beautiful surroundings, but rather in squatting and squinting at the flowers from all possible angles. I said to myself, "These people are simply grade A nuts. They are balmy, touched. So help me, I may break my back from wielding the hoe but I'll never lose my eyelashes from a flying shutter." And what happened? I'll tell you. First, Mrs. Nesmith wanted a shot of this or that for her catalog. Then we needed a picture of something special for the Bulletin. I found that I simply had to have some color shots of seedlings to send to my friends for study and comparison. We wanted slides to show at our winter get-togethers, not to speak of the AIS slide collections which are always in need of new slides.

Before I knew what it was all about, I had not one camera but two. I had so many gadgets that I had to carry them around in a satchel. At first I just kidded myself into believing that I was simply making a compromise. Then, all of a sudden, I realized that I was enjoying my puny efforts enormously, even though my pictures were so very bad that I saw that I had to do something about learning how to take a decent color shot. The simplest way to find out what I wanted to know, it seemed to me, was to copy what the successful photographer did. I was very lucky in being able to observe the methods employed by three top notch photographers, Fred Cassebeer, Terry Tomlin and Sam Caldwell. Fred and Sam, of course, are well known to the readers of the Bulletin. Both are former Editors, both have written articles for the Iris Society, and both have contributed many illustrations in color to the national flower magazines. Terry Tomlin is a commercial photographer for the *Nashville Tennessean*, one of our daily newspapers. Fred no longer works with the small color slides, preferring to concentrate on large sized negatives. Sam does both. Fred prefers to work under outdoor conditions using natural light. Sam likes to stage his shots



A little "window dressing" helps. Visitors at the AIS Annual Meeting in Sioux City last year will remember this fine clump of Cloth of Gold in Mrs. Charles G. Whiting's garden at Mapleton. Before making the picture photographer Sam Caldwell spent five minutes carefully tilting (with Mrs. Whiting's permission) and inconspicuously staking the flower stalks in position so that each blossom is visible to the camera's eye.

indoors, but uses natural lighting for the most part. Terry, of course, works everywhere and under all conditions. For the most part he supplements natural lighting with flash equipment and is able to use a more constant exposure. Here are some of the points I have picked up from these three color shot artists.

1. **PATIENCE IS A NECESSITY.** It is much better to take a few shots that are good than a great number of pictures where there will be only a few good ones in the bunch. Don't hurry. Take your time. Be careful, and if you are a dub like I am, recheck each step to insure

that you have not forgotten something. If you have to wait till the sun comes out from behind a cloud, then wait. If the wind is rustling the flower, wait some more. A good picture is worth waiting for.

2. PLACE YOUR CAMERA PROPERLY. The position and angle of the camera depends largely upon the type of shot that you are making. In making garden scenes move about until you find a spot where an even distribution of color will fill the field of vision. If there is a natural vista in the landscaping, try to take advantage of it. Then move forward or backward until only the part of the landscape that interests you will be in the final picture. The angle of the camera with reference to the light is a matter of individual preference. Sometimes side-lighting is desirable, sometimes back-light. Both will tend to glamorize the subject. Light from directly back of the camera seems to make the subject look flat, so for general purposes, light from either side at a slight angle seems to give the best results.

For close-ups, the height of the camera is important. Flaring falls, for instance, lose their charm and, incidentally, their color value when viewed from an equal height. Usually placing the camera slightly above the subject and in a position that will show off the several parts of the flower to the best advantage, is a good rule of thumb.

3. STAGE THE EXHIBIT. If you are going out for the evening, the chances are that you will put on your best bib and tucker, so if your picture is going to do likewise, dress it up. First, mentally stake off the outer limits of the background. Then remove all extraneous articles that might be scattered about, such as coats and hats, garden tools, bits of paper, lawnmowers, jeeps and what-not. Check your background and if there is a stray automobile that needs moving, move it. Then, proceed to tidy-up the stalk, clump or bed of iris to be photographed. Remove all tags. If unsightly markers are visible in the picture, pull them up and place them face down on the ground. Remove all dead blooms (but don't touch a seed pod), pull up any unsightly weeds, and if you really want good results, rake the top of the soil until it darkens. In very dry weather, you may even have to water the soil to achieve this effect. After you have done all this, you are ready to begin.

4. GADGETS HELP OUT. Some people claim that they can get good results without a light meter but I would be lost without one. If you are new at the game, use the meter and do exactly what it says to do. After you get experience, you can begin to vary the readings a little. For instance, if you are taking a bright yellow subject in the midst of green grass and foliage, you will learn to take a reading on both the grass and the yellow flower and actually use a mean reading between the two.



Color, or black-and-white? It makes a lot of difference. In color this makes an excellent picture, for the gold and red hues of iris Mary Vernon stand out in bold contrast against gray-green foliage of a native redcedar in the Evanston, Illinois garden of Dr. Franklin Cook. Reduced to gradations of gray in a black-and-white photograph, the result is disappointing. Flowers are partially lost against the background because it has about the same brightness values as the blossoms themselves. One way to get around a situation like this is shown in the Blue Rhythm picture.

For good work a tripod is a necessity. There is always a chance that the flower will wiggle in the wind, so in order to eliminate any movement of the camera, station it on a tripod. Many people can get excellent results with various types of range-finders, but my personal preference is for a camera with a ground glass back for focusing. I use a black cloth to keep out the light and a magnifying glass so that I can see the image in detail on the ground glass. This is a sure way to eliminate fuzzy pictures. The photographic shop is literally full of different kinds of gadgets for the amateur, but don't forget, that is the very best place for them, right in the shop. The best plan is to get you a good, simple, outfit and learn how to use it so that you can get the most out of it. I have a friend who used to take wonderful kodachromes until she got a fancy camera with a suit-case full of extra lenses and filters, and since she got the new outfit, she hasn't taken a decent picture.

5. STOP DOWN FOR SHARPNESS. This is the theme that Sam Caldwell preaches. And he is so right. The novice will try to take the picture in any kind of light. He will open up the aperture to compensate for lack of light and thereby sacrifice depth of focus. This is a bad practice. Get the camera still, the subject still, and then see how large a stop you can use. Then if you bring the subject in focus, everything behind it will also be sharp. This is the most important single qualification for taking a good picture—either black-and-white or color.

6. PROPER LIGHTING IS IMPORTANT. You can take a picture in any kind of light, even at night by the use of flash bulbs. But, there are certain kinds of light that give better results than others. Bright overhead sunlight tends to bleach out the color. Early morning or late afternoon sunlight gives a red effect. The best results seem to come from diffused sunlight from a light overcast or hazy days. If you simply must make a shot on a sunny day, you can lessen the shadow on the side of the flower opposite the sun by the use of a white reflector. Use anything you wish, a towel or sheet will do. A large piece of white cardboard is excellent. Have someone hold it high so that it will re-

A front-lighted picture of this clump of Blue Rhythm was only fair, but by waiting until the sun had moved over to throw the background in shadow, Caldwell got a dramatically back-lighted shot that has the illusion of depth—a third dimension. Often with close-ups of individual flowers it is possible to darken the background simply by having a helper hold a coat or parasol to throw a shadow where it is needed.





RHAPSODY in BLUE—*RHYTHM*!

flect the sunlight and soften the shadows. The background also affects the lighting. In general, for light subjects use a dark background such as black velvet. For dark subjects, use a pale colored background, something grey or light blue. For a bicolored subject, the background must be neutral. In photographing the iris Wabash for instance, use a grey background. Then there will be some contrast for both the white standards and the dark falls. Certain colors (or flowers) will show off to advantage if a background of the complementary color is used. For this purpose, sheets of colored paper may be purchased from any firm specializing in poster and sign painter's supplies.

7. HELP OUT NATURE. I think it is perfectly ethical to do anything that will ultimately make the picture more beautiful. Suppose you select a stalk of iris for photographing and before you get the job done someone injures a blossom. Don't give up—simply put another flower on. The operation is simple: carefully pry open the spathe and sever the stem through the thickest portion. Cut off a toothpick and stick it in the severed stem. Then procure a perfect flower and stick it on the other end of the toothpick. Pull the spathe back in place and it's as good as new, at least for an hour or so. If you are taking a picture of a bed of iris and there is a blank spot, don't hesitate to "plant" a few iris stalks in beer or coca cola bottles stuck in the ground at the right spot. What you are after is a beautiful garden picture, not a bout with your conscience, so do whatever it takes, even to moving in a clump or a shrub, if the result is worth the effort.

That is about all that I can think of except if you try to photograph a blue iris and the slide comes back some shade of lavender, don't be discouraged. Try again if you want to but the next one will probably be just as bad. Every once in a while someone does take a true color picture of a blue iris, but not often, and they never can tell exactly why it turned out well. Mostly, the blues will come out lavenders. A possible explanation is given by Mr. F. E. Johnson of the Sales Service Division of the Eastman Kodak Co. To quote from Mr. Johnson's letter:

"First of all is the question of color 'bounce.' By this, we mean that colors of surrounding objects will very often reflect from the surface of the object being photographed with some resulting degradation in the color of the subject. This condition may be eliminated almost entirely by isolating your flowers when they are photographed. In other words, place a black velvet background or some similar device in back of the flowers when you make your pictures. Of course such a technique as this is applicable only when making close-ups. It is of no value in the case of photographing an entire garden, for example.

"This gives rise to a second consideration—one of relative area. If any small light colored area is viewed against a much larger colored

area, the small color patch will tend to assume, to a certain extent, the color of its surroundings or, in some cases, it may assume the color of the complement of the surroundings. Suppose we take a concrete example. Let us assume that you are photographing a garden consisting principally of blue iris with grass, bushes, trees, and similar green foliage as surroundings. The complement of green is magenta which is, in reality, a mixture of red and blue. The tiny areas of the iris will tend to assume a marked magenta coloration due to the phenomenon known as simultaneous contrast. If viewed for any length of time, the eye will accommodate for these surroundings and the flowers will be seen in their true color blue. This question is one of psychological color perception and carries over into your color photographs.

"Also, there is a factor introduced at this point called relative brightness. Dark green, such as foliage, naturally reflects a great deal less light than the delicate tints in the iris themselves. Therefore, in a scenic such as a garden picture, an exposure must be given which will record most faithfully the greatest proportion of colors throughout the scene. Very light, delicately colored, small areas are bound to suffer from this since the reflected light from them contributes to a very small extent to the total brightness of the scene."

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CRITIQUE OF PROGRESS

DAVID F. JOHNSON, (New Jersey)

My first recollection of iris is in the year 1892, there amid the wild grass under a rusty barb-wire fence stand two clumps of white iris in bloom, probably Florentine. I see them again as on that day long ago, under the golden, wind jammed, awe-inspiring sky of Kansas.

Next I have a garden of my own and putter with flowers in the cool of the evening. I have Farr's catalog (1915-16 edition) and spend long hours picking and choosing. I have almost worshipped his catalog and kept it all these years, even when iris were seemingly out of my life forever. I still study it and find that the colored and other illustrations are more enlightened and the reproductions better than the dubious fabrications with off-color, unreal and unrevealing florets we have today. There is still talk about the great ancestral iris listed there: "Caterina, a new hybrid between Trojana and Pallida raised by Sir Michael Foster," with branching stems four and a half feet high. Such are rare today; present catalogs list only one, from that good start we have not done well, I regret the foot and a half in stature we have lost, and there is Juniata, "Tallest of them all," then new and shown in full color, not just a select blossom poised at a calculated unnatural angle but the whole stem with three blossoms open. In the lists are Orriflame, Amas, Her Majesty, Queen of May and many others recorded in iris history but as is ever the fate of life on earth most of the others have passed away without leaving a word or trace of their having passed this way.

I bought some of them, blindly, for I knew nothing of relative worth, and Princess Victoria Louise still blooms in a large neglected clump each spring, immune to rot and borer, cheerful with its lot of poverty and hardship asking only a place to grow.

In 1923 I grew my first lot of some 300 seedlings. I was disappointed. They were mostly tints of light blue similar to Princess Beatrice which was probably the parent of most of them. A few were like Madam Chereau, one of the parents, none bigger or better or much different, so I abandoned them all but one which had curiously curled falls, but poorly tended it never bloomed again.

Another long interval passes and again I take up iris; it has now become a big affair, strange to me, highpowered and authoritative. I am as bewildered as was Rip Van Winkle on his return after a like twenty years sleep. We who begin or start anew do need help if we are not to blunder along for years trying to learn the important things that are common knowledge and available all the time but not accessible to us. The folks who write for our benefit forget that while they have scaled the ladder to the top and excitedly scan the vast

beyond, we are still grappling with the lower rung trying to get a leg up.

The glittering parade of fine catalogs all say the same thing over and over about the many good and bad iris, salesmanship in glowing honeyed words, but little or nothing about the indolence and frailties of some varieties that make us unhappy in the garden in that they are not what we hoped and expected. They leave it for us to find out such things a year or two later, and a year or two at the end, when you are old, means a lot.

The Bulletin moves in majestic grandeur, its eyes on the mountains, forgetting that we little people are in the valley far below. All the chitchat is about numbered seedlings in some far away garden or about the ten and twenty-five dollar kinds that we dare not take on until we are more seasoned and richer. So we gamble on the lesser kinds so sweetly portrayed and they are good, much better than the ones I had 30 years ago but still each and every one of them are deficient in many factors. I know it is tedious and difficult to produce the near perfection we would like to have but it is possible for every factor that I deem necessary to iris perfection to be found in one or more of the varieties that are common to us all. All that is needed is to stir about the chromosomes of the kinds that have what we want and then juggle them into one little brown seed. It is simple as that.

The Symposium is a glittering rainbow to us chillun who dig in the good earth but an empty husk when we turn to it for guidance as to the best iris for us to buy. Belatedly I have discovered that it is not a list of the best iris in the order of their bestness and I still admire the way it works even if it outdoes Rube Goldberg in the indirectness and inconsequential arrival at nothing and nowhere. When the condition where each judge must generalize by twenty indecisions as to which is best, relying on the attrition of conflicting opinions to nibble away his selection of best to the final level that passes for their true worth; when this is coupled with the unrelated condition of which variety has had the largest sustained sale and is most commonly grown, we can but arrive at the unreliable and debatable "follow the herd" rating we now have.

Here in my garden in Jersey I am not interested in how well a variety grows in California, Texas or Tennessee, nor how many others have it. What does concern me is: Will it sulk for years or will it put on a colorful display every year? Will it rot just before time of bloom? Will there be one stalk or ten, five blossoms or fifty? Will it endure for 20 days or will it fade away in six? All this and more I ask and not in some far away wonderland but right here in my garden.

I regret that an inefficient halfway new color classification has been adopted. Except in a vague general way it is worthless when it classifies Cherie, Rocket and Tobacco Road as light, medium and dark of the

same color. To label Garden Glory and Bryce Canyon by the same color symbol does not help much to know what color they are.

But come negligence and boners, summer fire and winter frost, autumn drought and spring flood, fulfillment of daring hopes and reality of more wonders than in a dream, tragic failures, worthlessness, no-good performance—be all such things as they are, I still know full well that there is nothing else like a lusty iris garden. No beacon lures more strongly, no promise is more alluring than a row of unbloomed seedlings. Let Gabriel stay his trumpet blast until we have seen yet another row unfurl its banners in the sunshine of one more glorious spring.

* * * *

*Way Beyond the Hills of I-da-ho, Where Yawning Canyons Meet the Sun**

MRS. ED CONRAD, (Idaho)

Much has been written of Southern hospitality but nothing could excel the warm welcome given by Utah iris folk to visitors in their gardens. Sooner or later the iris enthusiast is not satisfied with purchasing new iris and waiting to see them bloom. You just have to get out and see what the people are doing who make this iris game keep ticking.

Mrs. C. W. Valette of Delco, Idaho (Wilma to over one hundred iris robinettes) and I went to see for ourselves what was going on in the area around Salt Lake City where there is much enthusiasm in iris hybridizing. We were guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fitzgerald of Magna who saw to it that we saw iris! Mrs. Fitzgerald has a wonderful garden spread all over the hillside under the shadow of the great Magna copper smelter, whose fumes make the growing of many flowers impossible. Iris, however, seem to thrive and here each morning and evening we were free to leisurely check on hundreds of varieties growing beautifully. Helen admits that she is an iris collector and her collection is one to be envied.

In a terraced bed close to the house are growing all the Dykes Medal winners. It is always interesting to see them together but the color arrangements that can be made with them isn't usually very well balanced. Has anyone noticed this?

In large two and three year clumps, varieties which were outstanding included Lady Boscowen, Moonlight Madonna, Tiffanja, Deep Butter-

* From the popular song, "Idaho"

cup, Cool Lemonade, Desert Song, Mt. Timp, Barrimohr and Lady Mohr. Everywhere we saw Lady Mohr it was performing like a queen. I can't praise it too highly.

Seen here for the first time was a comparative old timer which I admired a great deal. It was a fine clump of Copper Cascade and when I saw it and noted its good color, substance and floriferousness, I expected it to be something new and expensive. Lothario was another wonderful surprise in the lower priced group.

In a complete new planting, under a light shade, only a few of the earlier varieties were in good bloom. New Snow and Chi-Yun were both very beautiful and both have Snow Flurry as pod parent. Like Snow Flurry, they had a quality that made for distinctiveness.

The next day was spent in Provo and Orem where we visited Tell Muhlestein's plantings and were escorted by Tell to Luzon Crosby's iris garden at Orem. Near Utah Lake Tell has a large patch of newer varieties from other hybridizers. Evidence of minor to severe frost damage was noted almost everywhere, resulting in some distorted stalk and damaged blossom.

It has been said that the nicest thing about iris is the people who grow them, and our experience in Utah certainly bore out the truth of the statement. Joy and enthusiasm seem to pervade the atmosphere at Muhlestein's, adding much to the pleasure of meeting Tell and Marie and surveying his work.

Several plants of his row of Pink Formal were just coming into bloom and we were able to see this really fabulous beauty. It is all it is supposed to be and the substance is unbelievable in such a delicate color. The flower seems to grow larger the first 24 hours and to attain a truly beautiful shape and form. Pink Tower and Pink Salmon were blooming nearby and are also worth-while pinks.

More Pinks — More Beards

Almost every one of the new ones that are coming on were breathtaking in their beauty. A double row of seedlings from Pink Cameo X Pink Formal and Pink Formal X Party Dress were every shade and variation of orchid and pink and almost all of them had "that beard." One in the group was something to dream about. It had everything—size, substance, form and the most marvelous rich pink color with real garden value. I went back to it the third time telling myself it was just too good to be true.

Another, entirely different, was a lovely, clear, rosy orchid with a light area around a perfect blockbuster tangerine beard and enhanced by a delightful fragrance. Tell has named this Sweet Marie. I am privileged to grow it this year and shall be able to observe with interest its performance in Idaho. Almost any of these many pink seedlings

from crosses using Pink Formal were improvements over any of the named pinks in commerce today.

Tell has not confined his efforts to pinks. He had many beautiful seedlings from crosses which produce brilliant coppery blends. His Sable Night, not yet introduced, was about the finest dark iris I saw. Tell's Green Mohr was in bloom and if hardy enough everywhere will probably cause a sensation when widely distributed. Personally, I care little for a green flower, but it caused quite a flurry at the iris show in Salt Lake City, receiving the cup as best seedling in the show.

I noted many of the new named varieties of other hybridizers in Tell's plantings. Of the ones with onco or Mohr parentage I preferred Blumohr, a soft blue with wonderful substance from Marx, and Schirmer's Mohrloff, a fine plicata with the Mohr look. Blue Elegance and Morning Blue seemed a rather slate blue tone when compared to Blumohr. Peg Dabagh was flowering better than Heigho which had suffered frost damage. Anita Catherine was a nice flower which I must have.

A row of hybrids and species iris interested me greatly as I saw for the first time Susiana, Yarkand and Oyez, the latter two from White and all three looking like something out of a fairy tale. I was disappointed in Butterfly Wings.

Two Salbach varieties I'd never seen before were Amber Gem, a glowing reddish chestnut brown and gold toned flower, and Top Score, a very nice variegata.

Moontide (McKee) a fine deep yellow, and Marathon from Whiting were performing splendidly. Gold Sovereign, a new Whiting orange was the nicest in its color class that I've ever seen. Rich, glowing, with no dirt on the falls and no haft markings, it seemed to be really different and good. It isn't large, but is so intensely colored that one couldn't ask it to have huge size in addition.

Mattie Gates was a beautiful thing in bright lemon yellow and white. It had one fault if you can call it a fault—it was so loaded with bloom I wondered if it could possibly have enough increase to live.

Bellerive, a 1950 introduction from Clifford Benson, was about the loveliest deep cream I ever saw. Somewhat darker than Desert Song, it had a thickness of petal which made the color appear deeper. If it is a good doer, it will be very popular.

I did not care for Leilani, but Chivalry, Sea Lark, Solid Mahogany, Illinois Sunshine, Orangeman, Ruffled Bouquet, Royal Crest, Cordovan, Good News, California Trek and Blue Rim were all meeting the requirements for first rate iris.

On Friday we visited gardens in the Salt Lake area. At Margaret Albright's the bloom was late and therefore scarce. She had one splendid seedling in bloom which had been open for three days and was still

lovely. It was number 48-01, a cross of Great Lakes and Tell's 46-04 (a seedling with the color of Color Carnival). The Albright seedling had much the same shape and form of Great Lakes and about the same depth of color but with so much more rose in it that it looked rosy lavender. We liked it very much.

At Val Frazee's we saw not only iris but an interesting rock garden and wild flowers growing in deep shade on a glamorized irrigation ditch bank. It was so well naturalized that it had the appearance of a forest stream. We saw Lady Mohr again, Blue Valley, Hit Parade (growing taller here than elsewhere), Cool Lemonade, White Wedgewood and Mrs. Frazee's new Evensong, all remarkably well grown. Here again was an old one, China Maid, growing in such a lovely clump and blooming so beautifully that we paused among the new ones to admire it especially. It is surprising how well some of the old timers hold their own.

We ate lunch at Mrs. Frazee's and had our dessert with Mrs. Richard Carlston, who is the gracious proprietor of Carlston's Iris Gardens in Salt Lake City. They had suffered terrible frost damage and the only worth-while planting not almost ruined was a bed next to a cinder block garage. This contained the very choicest named pinks, yellows and whites and they made a wonderful display.

Naylor's Enchanting Canyon

Our next stop was at the really astounding garden of Mel Naylor in the heart of the city. Almost against his back step, a deep canyon garden leaves you spellbound. The walls are as steep as anything I ever care to climb, and with painstaking care, narrow terraces, perhaps no more than two feet wide have been carved out of the canyon wall.

Little paths wind criss-cross back and forth beside the terraces. Reaching the floor of the garden is like negotiating a pass in our Sawtooth Mountains. Here growing in deep and semi-shade, I saw the only attractive clump I'd seen of Helen McGregor. She certainly can't take the sun here in the west. Chivalry and Distance were lovely here and Spanish Peaks was a fine flower on a poorly branched stalk. Mattie Gates was beautiful here again and in this cool shade, Zantha had reached a state of perfection not seen elsewhere.

In a garden on street level, Mr. Naylor had a number of Hall's pinks. Of these, my personal preference was for Heritage. It has depth of color, good form and substance and is nicely ruffled with a deep tangerine beard. I thought it much nicer than Cherie. Melody Lane was a fine salmon apricot with Chantilly ruffling. Two other beautiful iris were Blue Rim, another Larsen plicata and Hall's Illinois, creamy yellow which had rather open standards but this fault was forgiven because of its near perfection otherwise.

Mr. Naylor had several fine seedlings, one of which I thought particularly outstanding. It is registered as Ruffled Ice and was a cross of Snow Flurry X Winter Carnival. If it proves reliable and hardy everywhere, it can't help but gain wide popularity. The color was blue-white and its form and ruffling were wonderful.

The last stops for the day were at the Carl Larsens' and at Mrs. Olive Thayne's. Their homes are on the eastern slopes above the city and they had little bloom. Carl's seedling beds were masses of buds but almost no bloom. It was a pleasure to meet the Larsens and Mrs. Thayne, but we were sorry the iris here were late.

We left Saturday evening feeling our trip was more worth-while in some ways than a convention would have been. We were able to take our time and see all we wanted to see without "catching a bus" at a given time. Also, we saw which of the newer things performed well in the Inter-mountain West. We had severe late freezes here as they had in Utah and iris that could come through that and put on a glorious show are the ones to buy. Also, our altitude and dry air make some varieties fade in a disastrous fashion. It's worth-while to know these offenders.

My biggest disappointment, I believe, was in seeing a gorgeous bud of Pierre Minard and not seeing it unfold. If the flower fulfills the expectations that bud stirred up, then it is something!

One of the biggest thrills aside from seeing new varieties for the first time was in noting some beautiful iris, new to me and very inexpensive. Of these perhaps the best were Berkeley Blue and Yellow Tower. They would be a lovely addition to any planting.

When we reached home, our iris were just coming on so our iris season was really a long and delightful one. Making new friends in a neighboring area, seeing the work of our western hybridizers made us realize as nothing else could, that we of the Rocky Mountain States are on the iris map and on to stay.

INTRODUCING!!

JACK FROST, H. C. '49 **\$15.00 net**

Snow Flurry X (Gloriole X Shining Waters) White, Crisp, Thick! Falls Horizontal. Standards domed. Ruffled Blooms well spaced. 37 in. Clean foliage, good increase.

AMITY, H. M. '47 **\$5.00**

(Sensation X Los Angeles) X (Wambliska X San Francisco) A "FANCY," white brushed lavender blue. Good form, perfect garden habits. See Bull. 115, page 13.

Introduced and Listed by Fairmount Gardens

BAY STATE, H. C. '46, H. M. '49

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707 Pearl St., Reading, Mass.

TERMS: Cash with order.

WHO'S WHO . . .

IN THE AIS

I sometimes wonder about this. Each day the mail is full of letters from people all over the country, all interested in some phase of iris activity. Nearly all have a project and everyone seems to be doing something for our Society. To introduce all of these people would take more pages than the BULLETIN will publish in a hundred issues, but in order that our readers may better know a few of them we offer as a compromise several short biographical sketches. These sketches, beginning in this issue, will continue indefinitely, and will, at first, concern new names that occupy positions of prominence.

In 1951 the Annual Meeting of the Society will be held in Louisiana, one of the states comprising Region Ten. In charge of the meeting will be one of our newest Regional Vice-Presidents, but though one of the newest, she has already proven to be diplomatic, gracious and a woman of great understanding with reference to the problems of others.

LILLIAN HALL TRICHEL

North of the Mason and Dixon Line you would pronounce Mrs. Trichel's name as Trishle. But in Louisiana they say Tri-shell to rhyme with oyster shell. But by any name pronounced in any fashion she would be a remarkable person.

At sixty-six she is a grandmother, and by her own admission has excellent prospects of being a great-grandmother. She is a woman of great energy. Many years ago when I first met her she took me to see her seedlings. They were scattered over a small farm, growing in small ponds and wet places. We had already visited all the iris gardens in Shreveport and I was about to fall in my tracks from sheer exhaustion, but this good lady stalked from pond to pond with the speed and enthusiasm of a third string substitute rushing on to the football field. Year before last, I was again in Shreveport and Mrs. Trichel again took me around to see the iris. This time however she had a broken leg, encased in a sack or so of plaster. But do you think a little thing like that slowed her down? Not on your life. Thump, thump,



and here we came. If I had had a broken leg I would have sat down and made them cut the iris and bring them to me. But not Mrs. Trichel, a little thing like a broken leg didn't even slow her down.

Mrs. Trichel has produced some of the best Louisiana native seedlings that have come upon the market. She began with them a long time ago and though she grows but few a year they are of high quality. In addition to iris she breeds—of all things—persimmons, and with great success I might add, for I have eaten the fruits from her seedlings. Her other hobbies are fruit trees, blossoming shrubs, bulbs and birds.

In order to get material for these sketches I sent to the several people involved a list of questions designed to give me information about them that would be accurate. Along with the questions of purely informative nature I threw in two of an entirely different character. The first was "Do you think we should get out of Korea?" and second, "What one thing would you suggest that would benefit the AIS most in 1951?"

To the question on Korea Mrs. Trichel's answer was, "Where could we go and ever be safe again?" and to the question about the AIS her answer was simply, "I like us the way we are." I give you these two answers as a key to a person whose character forms the words before her tongue speaks them.

* * * * *



MRS. E. K. (NANCY) HARDISON, JR.

If you happen to be one of those inquisitive souls who reads the fine print in the daily newspaper which concerns itself with such things as death notices, marriages, real estate transfers and such, you probably noticed a small change in the make-up of the inside front cover of the July, 1950 BULLETIN. A new name was added to the BULLETIN staff.—NANCY HARDISON.

You will instinctively like Nancy when you meet her for she always seems glad to see you. She helps her husband Ernest run a sizeable farm about ten miles out of Nashville, Tenn. This farm is used as a testing ground not only for the seeds that Ernest sells, but also for many new spraying compounds, fertilizers and gardening gadgets.

Mrs. Hardison likes to dance, plays boogie-woogie and has a weakness for fishing. She has two children, three Labrador Retrievers, numerous cats, a yen for black coffee, an aversion to cows and an over-developed sense of responsibility. This last item has already resulted in some very careful proofreading of the last three issues of the BULLETIN. Mrs. Hardison received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University in 1932, and her one editorial venture previous to her status as proof-reader and re-writer was with the Grinder's Switch Gazette, a local radio publication.

* * * * *

CATHERINE S. HEMINGWAY

Region Nineteen has a new Regional Vice-President. She is Mrs. Catherine S. Hemingway of Bound Brook, New Jersey. When Mr. Charles H. Caldwell was forced to give up the position because of ill health, your Secretary had a terrible sinking feeling. Prospects for the RVP job are few and far between, for it is anything but an honorary position. There is a lot of work attached to it and not many people have both the necessary time and the inclination for such an arduous task. But Providence and Miss Harriette Holloway took care of the situation. Providence turned up Miss Holloway and Miss Holloway turned up Mrs. Hemingway.

Catherine Hemingway has an ideal background for her new position. She is a lecturer, garden consultant and an authority on iris. Experience gained in almost ten years in the Society will stand her in good stead, as will a long association with the various horticultural groups in New Jersey.

Mrs. Hemingway has a grown son and a large garden, ample to keep her busy. I asked her what her occupation was and what hobby she had other than iris and she replied "You will notice in my letter that my occupation and main hobby are the reverse of most peoples' and



may wonder if I put the answers in the wrong places. The answers are correct. My occupation is that of an amateur gardener and my hobby is housekeeping. This blissful state of being able (most of the time) to expend my efforts on the most endlessly, interesting, satisfactory and inspiring occupation—namely gardening—I zealously guard against encroachments of what some people consider practical and even necessary demands.”

It is a privilege to salute a gardener who has the courage to champion these convictions.

MR. J. W. HOUSE

Newly elected AIS Director Joe House is a man who never does anything by halves. There is nothing small about him except talk, and he is positively full of that. Seldom does one meet his like as a conversationalist. His stories are endless and his fame as a raconteur has spread far beyond the confines of his native state of Arkansas. The same is true of his politics—his long association with Joe Robinson gave a national flavor to his activities. (Mrs. House, by the way, is the late Senator's daughter.)



When Joe was a youngster he was not content just to go fishing and catch a fish—he had to break the record for the largest bass ever taken in Arkansas. Thus it was only natural that he extend this philosophy to his flowers. Joe doesn't grow tuberose by the dozens or the hundreds, he grows them by the thousands. He planted enough *L. speciosum rubrum* so that he could cut a couple of gross a day during the blooming season. He grows his iris in rows, each about a quarter of a mile long. And lastly, just to take up his spare time, he planted recently a few acres of daylily seedlings. If you non-believers doubt this, go to the convention in June of the Hemerocallis Society (of which Joe is President).

But seriously, Joe has reached an age (77) where he is able to look back upon a life that began in hardship, and has matured in complete mastery of his environment; that began as a bare-foot farm boy, maturing into a great barrister respected in his chosen profession. I said that Joe had reached "an age in life." I should have said that he had reached a mellow age, and if I was asked to define what I meant by "mellow age" I would say it was that point in a man's life when he is able to enjoy to the very fullest extent a good story, a good meal, a good fight and the good wishes of those who love and admire him.

—THE EDITOR.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGNS

Looking Back at 1950

Looking Forward to 1951

The 1950 Membership Campaign was a success in the sense that it produced a very considerable number of new members for the Society. It could have been much more of a success if your committee had been more familiar with the different methods of organization in the various regions and if the campaign had been given earlier and better publicity. With this last fact in mind, we should look ahead to 1951.

According to reports received from the Regional Vice-Presidents, new members secured as a result of the 1950 campaign were, by regions, as follows:

<i>Region</i>	<i>Members from 1950 Campaign</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Members from 1950 Campaign</i>
1.	1	12.	12
2.	23	13.	100
3.	0	14.	0
4.	12	15.	46
5.	2	16.	15
6.	28	17.	167
7.	82	18.	82
8.	3	19.	2
9.	11	20.	33
10.	5	21.	63
11.	35	Total	<u>722</u>

According to the membership records at Nashville there are some minor discrepancies in the above tabulation due to technical differences over the starting date and ending date of the campaign. However, for practical purposes the above tabulation is substantially correct.

1950 marked the 4th year in a row that AIS had engaged in an active campaign for increased membership. One of the most important criticisms against the 1950 campaign (and it was heard on all sides) was that members secured as a result of such a campaign are not members who will continue in membership over a long period of years. A great many people feared that members secured as a result of the campaign would drop out after a year or two. In any campaign of this kind it is inevitable that a certain number of people will be persuaded to join and will later find they do not have a lasting interest in irises. This cannot be avoided, and the measure of the campaign's success is the percentage of people who do continue to be members over a period of many years. An analysis of the results of the past four campaigns

SPECIALISTS IN



Schreiner's Iris Gardens

EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTORS OF THE WORLD FAMOUS INTRODUCTIONS OF MRS. JEAN STEVENS AND THE ORIGINATORS OF THE NEWEST IN BLACKS, ANNOUNCE THE INTRODUCTION, IN 1951, OF

Royal Sovereign—(Stevens 1951) ML 38 in.

Entirely distinct from all other yellows, this iris is a true self-colored, much the same as a California poppy. The falls are rich plush-velvet, rigidly held. The standards are taffeta textured. Does not fade or bleach. The growth is vigorous, increase rapid. \$15.00

Summit—(Stevens 1951) m 40 in.

Pinnacle was light yellow and white. Summit is DEEP yellow and white. A sensational, tall iris of excellent branching. The deep golden yellow of its falls and the snow white standards furnish a sharp contrast that is refreshing and breath-taking at the same time. \$15.00

Mystic Melody—(Stevens 1951) MLa. 39 in.

This sister seedling of Summit, though less striking is not less glamorous. The enamelled, sun-drenched falls are butter yellow, the luminous, silken standards are a moonlit, shimmering cream. Tall with low branching. \$15.00

Black Diamond—(Schreiner 1951) ML 33 in.

In size and lustre this iris represents the greatest advance in black iris. The copiously formed ebony blue-black blooms simply glisten with a black silky sheen. Though no taller than Black Forest, the flowers are almost twice as large. \$20.00

Copper Medallion—(Schreiner 1951) M 38 in.

This stunning seedling from Bryce Canyon X Sunset Serenade glitters with the metallic brilliance of a new penny. The handsome, full-sized blooms hold their color well in the strongest sun, a color to remember, inherited from two famous bloodlines—Kleinsorge and Sass. \$15.00

Raspberry Ribbon—(Schreiner 1951) EM 34 in.

A plicata to excite both the color conscious and the style conscious fancier. Somewhat resembling the iris Minnie Colquitt, it is fresher, brighter, starchier in its clean-cut styling and jaunty ruffling. The white blaze on the falls and the clear-colored border are in sharp contrast. H. C. 1950. \$15.00

OUR STOCK HAS WON US FRIENDS EVERYWHERE
FOR ITS HIGH QUALITY AND HIGH PERCENTAGE
OF BLOOM THE FIRST YEAR AFTER PLANTING.

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shows that AIS is keeping as permanent members about two out of every three new members signed up. This is an exceptionally high percentage.

There will be a membership campaign in 1951, but it will take a different form. In fact, it may take 21 different forms; because this year each region will be urged to set up its own campaign under its own rules and its own ideas of organization and execution.

Each region of our Society is a separate personality and what works well in one region might not at all suit the people of another region. The proof of this is very clearly shown in the tabulation of 1950 results. The 1950 campaign suited some regions very well and, working within its framework, they produced excellent results. Other regions just didn't "take to it"; and they should not be blamed. The campaign itself should be blamed for not adapting itself to the organization of the region.

So, in 1951 your committee asks each separate region to organize its own membership campaign according to its own desires and aptitudes. Your committee, with the assistance of the Nashville office, will supply the separate regional organizations with suggestions and information, with mimeograph service where necessary, and with financial assistance when possible. Each Regional Vice-President will be asked to establish a membership committee for the region and to work with that membership committee in setting up and putting into action a plan tailored to the needs and wishes of the individual region.

In order to give the regions time to accomplish this, the 1951 campaign will begin on April 1, 1951 and will end on July 31, 1951. This means that the campaign will extend through the four months most active in iris and will end in time to permit the various regional organizations to take care of the distribution of any prizes which are offered.

In this matter of prizes, the 1951 campaign will not be like the 1950 campaign just ended. Each region will be asked to set up its own schedule of prizes and its own method of awarding them. Here, again, the individual approach of the region will be deferred to; so that each region will be free to express its own personality as it prefers.

For 1951 your Society needs approximately 1,000 new members in order to offset those who will drop out during 1951, and to make a net gain in total membership. This figure of 1,000, if divided evenly among the 21 regions would be fewer than 50 per region. A very modest number for most regions. In view of the results of the 1950 campaign, marked as it was by inefficient publicity, we believe that there will be no great difficulty in achieving a goal of 1,000 new members for 1951. Regional organizations are urged to write to the Membership Committee Chairman with any requests for information or assistance. Your committee is very proud of the job done by the various regions in 1950 and is confident that 1951 will show equal success.

—W. F. SCOTT, JR., *Chairman*, Membership Committee

REPORT OF DWARF IRIS COMMITTEE

WALTER WELCH, *Chairman*

This being the first annual report of the Dwarf Iris Committee, it gives us great pleasure to be able to present a gratifying account of the progress attained in our program for Dwarf iris.

Although we had been quietly building the foundation for some time, the first tangible form of the real structure appeared when the Directors gave official status to our group by appointing a Chairman of the Dwarf Iris Committee.

Our first experiment was with a Dwarf Iris Test Garden, originally sponsored by Mrs. Silas Waters, then R.V.P. of Region 6. This has been successful beyond our greatest expectations. We have succeeded in collecting and putting on display every Dwarf iris variety currently available, amounting to approximately 250 varieties; all of the Dwarf iris species, as well as numerous seedlings from the leading hybridizers of the country. To augment this pretentious and unique display, we have plantings of well over 2000 Dwarf seedlings, which give a good insight into what the future holds for Dwarfs. To verify our claims of success, each spring about the last week in April numerous Dwarf enthusiasts from all over the country make the long journey here to see the Dwarfs and talk Dwarfs with others of the clan.

Our next objective was to formulate a rating schedule and judging system, then a separate set of Awards for Dwarf iris, including the "Caparne Award," equivalent to the "Dykes Award" for the Tall Bearded iris. All of this was in due course approved by the Directors of the A.I.S. The current results were the awarding of Honorable Mention to Violet Gem and Primus; and Sound Money received the "Caparne Award."

Our latest venture was the formation of the Dwarf Iris Club, which is organized within the structure of the A.I.S. To become a member of the Dwarf Iris Club is optional and carries no obligation except a desire to further the interests of Dwarf iris; there are no dues, assessments or implied qualifications except that you be a member of the A.I.S.

We have secured the approval of the Board of Directors to appoint Specific Dwarf Iris Judges, with official status, in addition to the regular Accredited Judges, and to judge only Dwarf Iris, in the proportion of one Judge for each ten members in the Dwarf Iris Club.

Our Dwarf Iris Committee, which serves as the Executive Committee of the Dwarf Iris Club, is as follows:

Walter Welch, Middlebury, Ind., Chairman.

Mrs. Geo. D. Robinson, R.V.P. Region 6, Battle Creek, Mich.

Mrs. M. N. Mahood, Seattle, Wash.

Mrs. Vivian Grapes, Big Springs, Nebr.

Mrs. C. M. Zirbel, Ithaca, N.Y.

As our Club has now reached the 100 mark, we have appointed the ten Dwarf Iris Judges designated as our quota, but it must be noted these appointments do not restrict the Accredited Judges of the A.I.S. from voting for the Dwarfs.

Our next item on the agenda is to publish a "Dwarf Iris Club Portfolio," which will probably be mailed out by the time you receive this report. We hope to make this an annual affair.

We are proud of this accomplishment in less than two years. But at this point I want to state that through our Dwarf Iris Robins, members were preparing themselves for the roles that were to follow. Our Robin members were the backbone of the first group that conceived our program, as they are now of our present organization. When the Club became a reality, we were prepared with members qualified to become intelligent Judges, with fine collections of Dwarfs in several sections of the country, with budding hybridizers to carry along the work of improving the Dwarfs and a tried and proven medium of training other aspiring members to become proficient in knowledge of the Dwarfs, namely the Dwarf Iris Robins.

Already the stream of improved seedlings have begun to trickle in from the Dwarf breeders and this stream will grow in proportions as improved breeding stock becomes available. We have been handicapped because of the lack of sufficient quantities of certain species, particularly *I. pumila*.

An intensive search for the various forms of *I. pumila* has been carried on during the past two years, with very favorable results. During that time *I. pumila* var. *Cretica* has been located, tested cytologically, its history authenticated and good distribution achieved. Our most recent find was the diploid form of *I. pumila* known as *I. Attica*. This species had apparently been lost for several years and a lone rhizome was finally located in the garden of Mr. A. C. Herrick in England. He very generously offered to send it here and it is now making good growth in the Test Garden here at Middlebury, Ind. In a later offering he has donated two other color forms of *I. pumila* and an *I. chamaeiris* known as var. of Dr. Giuseppi, *I. subbiflora* and a rare Tall Bearded species *I. junonia*.

This will give you an idea of the range of our activities and aspirations. We have accomplished much but there is still much to be done. With our organization, faith and enthusiasm for our cause, we look confidently to the future to justify our trust in the Dwarfs.

Report of the AIS Scientific Committee for 1950

L. F. RANDOLPH

The following brief statement of the activities of the Scientific Committee during 1950 was submitted for the information of the Directors of the American Iris Society meeting at St. Louis, November 11 and 12, 1950.

Control of diseases and insect pests

Experiments designed to control diseases and insect pests were continued during the year. Applications of DDT in combination with a standard Bordeaux mixture were made with the first treatment timed to coincide with the beginning of new growth in the spring when day temperatures at Ithaca first reached the low seventies. It was found that a second and third application at approximately weekly intervals thereafter was sufficient to effectively control the iris borer throughout the season and maintain the foliage of the plants essentially free of leaf spot up to and during the flowering period.

Late in the season there was an appreciable build-up of the fungus leaf spot disease in some of the experimental plots, which caused an unsightly appearance but probably little reduction in the vigor of the plants. This might have been avoided if the spray treatments had been continued after the blooming season.

Rhizome soft rot and other diseases which sometimes cause injury were conspicuously absent throughout the growing season, in spite of the fact that the cool rainy weather in late August and September was favorable for the development of the soft rot organism.

Freedom from this disease during the past several years in my experimental plots is attributed to clean cultivation, absence of crowding of the plants in dense clumps, and the maintenance of the plots in well drained soil.

Cytological and genetical experiments

In collaboration with Professor Kay Heinig of Connecticut College, New London, studies were made of the chromosomes of various dwarf irises and a number of dwarf X tall hybrids. The true *Iris pumila* apparently forms 16 pairs of chromosomes quite regularly. The available material was too limited to fully determine whether an association of the chromosomes in fours as quadrivalents may not occur as might be expected since *I. attica* has only 16 chromosomes and *pumila* may therefore be a natural tetraploid. Hybrids of *pumila* (32) x PLUIE d'OR (24) showed 16 pairs and 12 univalents, while *pumila* (32) x CHAM-AEIRIS (40) formed 12 pairs and 12 univalents. Studies of other combinations of dwarfs including *I. attica* are needed to establish a sound basis for interpreting chromosome affinities among the dwarfs.

Cytological examination of Paul Cook's fertile hybrid seedling No. 1356 of dwarf and tall parentage revealed that it has 48 chromosomes. This indicates that the dwarf parent which he obtained from Mr. Rex Pearce must have had 48 chromosomes, since the other parent, SHINING WATERS, is a tetraploid. This is the first known case of a dwarf iris with 48 chromosomes.

Chromosome counts were made of a considerable number of varieties and species acquired during the year. A specimen of *I. kashmiriana* received from Colonel F. C. Stern in England was found to be a 44-chromosome Intermediate and not the tetraploid for which a search has been in progress for a number of years. Several forms of this species were being grown by Sir Michael Foster nearly 50 years ago when the tetraploid, dominant white varieties MISS WILLMOTT and KASHMIR WHITE appeared in his garden. It was from KASHMIR WHITE that ARGENTINA, PURISSIMA, EASTER MORN, SNOW FLURRY and most of the more recent dominant whites originated. The genetic evidence is conclusive that MISS WILLMOTT and KASHMIR WHITE must have come from a dominant white parent, namely, the white form of *kashmiriana* in Foster's garden and not, as Denis believed, from *cypriana* x *pallida* which are both colored and therefore could have produced only recessive white seedlings when intercrossed.

Regional Performance Rating program

The responsibility of conducting the rating program within regions was transferred to the Regional Vice Presidents who were interested in conducting a rating program during 1950. This plan was much more successful than the original scheme of having the forms distributed to judges directly by the Scientific Committee. It is suggested that the program be continued on the same basis in 1951. Regional Performance Ratings for 1950 will be prepared for publication in the July BULLETIN.

Iris experiences in England

In making arrangements to attend botanical meetings and visit research laboratories in Europe during the past summer it was planned to spend some time with iris specialists in England and France. A delightful visit with the Harry Randalls and a stroll through their lovely garden; making the acquaintance of Mr. A. C. Herrick, editor of the *Iris Yearbook*, who entrusted to my care rare specimens of dwarf iris including the elusive *Iris attica* which has the lowest chromosome number of any iris species; and arrangements for me to meet Colonel F. C. Stern later in Stockholm were memorable incidents during a brief visit to London. During my stay in London I also went to the headquarters of the Linnean Society to inspect the herbarium specimens of iris species named by Linne' in the Eighteenth Century. While examining

these specimens I was asked by Mr. Savage, curator of the collection, if I would be interested in examining the personal scientific records of Sir Michael Foster.

The scientific value of these records was at once apparent and it was arranged to return at a later date for more careful study of their contents.

Discussions of iris cytology with Marc Simonet in Paris and of iris classification with Colonel F. C. Stern in Stockholm were most helpful in clarifying unsolved problems in these fields. Colonel Stern very generously made available specimens of iris species, many of which I have not had previously in my collections. These are now thriving in our greenhouses here at Ithaca and it is planned to study their chromosomes during the coming year.

Future plans

The difficulties experienced in attempting to assemble a collection of the more important species and varieties of iris which were the foundation stock from which modern garden irises originated emphasize the importance of continuing the search for additional specimens before they become extinct. The decision to maintain the very extensive collection of the Fair Chance Farms, generously made available by the proprietor, Mr. Gaiser, until selections can be made for inclusion in a permanent collection was a step in the right direction.

The importation of additional species from Europe and Asia Minor would supply invaluable breeding material for the development of a greater diversity of horticultural varieties. Up to the present time there has been available to iris breeders scarcely more than a very small sample of the native irises which occur in various regions along the northern shores of the Mediterranean and eastward into Asia.

Contacts with collectors and botanists at various institutions in these areas are being established with the hope that much new material may be acquired during the next few years.

The Scientific Committee welcomes comments and suggestions from the directors and other members of the Society concerning the activities of the committee. Visitors are welcome to inspect the experimental plot at Ithaca, N.Y. at any time throughout the year. Blooming season for the dwarfs and intermediates begins early in May and continues into June with the height of the season for the tall bearded varieties usually about the second week in June.

There are approximately 350 species and older standard varieties of dwarf, intermediate and tall bearded iris, and an additional 400 or more of the better tall bearded varieties of recent introduction in the collection at Ithaca. In the seedling plots there should be well over 10,000 plants with first and second year bloom in 1951.

Some Uncommon Irises for Pot Culture

LAWRENCE NEEL, England

Each summer, when Nurserymen's catalogues start to arrive, one makes a resolution to try something different for one's winter display of indoor bulbs, and each autumn one plants the same bulbs as were planted the year before. Perhaps it's timidity in not really wanting to try something different; perhaps it's satisfaction with what one has always grown, or maybe it's that the average catalogue only lists the same varieties of bulbs year after year. However one can, after a bit of search, have a very varied selection of indoor bulbs and amongst these are a number of varieties of iris which do exceedingly well and are not difficult to grow. A few of these varieties are described below.

Iris Alata. This Juno iris is ideal for pot culture if something out of the way in flowers is wanted before Christmas. The bulbs are fairly large and have the curious store root common to this section of the iris family. Because of the length of this root a deep pot is needed and I have found either an 8" or a 10" suitable. A layer of good drainage in the bottom of the pot is essential and the bulbs can be set in some ordinary potting compost with the top of the bulb just buried and 6 or 7 bulbs to the pot. Planting can be undertaken in the latter half of September and growth commences almost at once. The pots should be stood in a frame or similar sheltered position to protect the young foliage from early frosts, and can then be brought indoors towards the end of October, when they will soon come into bloom. The flowers, of which there are two or three to a stem, are quite large in size and are a pure soft lilac mauve in colour with an orange ridge down the centre of the falls. At the haft of each fall there is a large mauve "wing" and this undoubtedly has given this iris its name of "The Winged Iris." The leaves will grow to a height of eight or nine inches, and due to the rather soft growth are prone to attack by aphids. A spray with Mortopal or some other good insecticide soon removes these. After flowering the pots should be put back in a frame or otherwise protected from severe weather and should be thoroughly dried out and baked during the summer to ripen the bulbs as much as possible. The bulbs should not be disturbed. According to Dykes the native habitat is Spain, Sardinia, Sicily, Algiers and Tripoli. The plant is hardy but very difficult to establish out of doors in this country due to the damage done to the rather rampant early leaf growth by frost, and subsequent non-ripening of the bulbs.

Iris Histroides Major. This member of the reticulata section is very desirable and thrives in a pan. Bulbs planted in mid-September and kept in a cold frame until the end of December can be brought into

Syllmar Gardens



1951



Introductions

LADDIE (E. Miess—51)—(Missouri X Great Lakes) A very fine blue of exceptional substance. The very large flowers are on sturdy stems and well spaced. Flaring falls, domed and ruffled standards. \$15.00

GOLDEN GLEAM (E. Miess—51)—(Tiffanja X Tobacco Road) A self of dandelion yellow with cream striations at the haft. A lavender cast to the beard gives an onco appearance. The horizontal falls are slightly ruffled. Standards ruffled and domed. Heavy substance \$15.00

SPRING ROMANCE (E. Miess—49) Large waxy blooms. A light cream with bright gold at the haft with a deep orange beard. Both standards and falls, beautifully ruffled, domed and flaring. Very tall stems and well branched. H. M. 1950 \$17.00

LAKE TENAYA (E. Miess—50) One of the most gracefully poised and branched of all the iris. Bluest of blue, plus an intense yellow beard. Falls are flaring. Standards domed, slightly ruffled. Good substance. H. M. 1950 \$8.00

HAPPY VALLEY (E. Miess—50) A large amethyst self with quality all over it. Falls rounded, ruffled and exceptionally wide at the haft. Ruffled and domed standards. Very heavy substance, fragrant. Branched low. \$12.50

SYLLMAR GARDENS

Elma Miess

12982 Borden Ave., San Fernando, California

bloom by mid-January. The bulb should be just buried in a good potting compost and six or seven bulbs to a 7 inch diameter pan is sufficient. The flowers are quite large, very deep blue in colour with a prominent deep yellow lip on the falls with some white markings on either side. The flower stem is about 4" high and appears before the leaves, and a pan in bloom is a very beautiful sight. The bulbs need not be disturbed but should be thoroughly ripened off during spring and summer. *Iris histroides* is a native of Asia Minor and is hardy in this country. If planted out of doors in a sheltered sunny corner it will do well.

Iris Vartani alba. This member of the *reticulata* section from the neighborhood of Nazareth in Palestine is a very good subject for growing indoors. Planting should be carried out the end of September, the bulbs being set just below the surface in good potting compost in a seven inch pan, in which it should be possible to plant 12 bulbs. Leaf growth commences early and for this reason it is advisable to shelter the pan in a frame. When the leaves are about 4 inches high bring the pan indoors and it will be in flower early in January. The flowers are very delicate greyish white in colour, about 4 inches high and strongly almond scented. The narrow leaves are about 7 inches high at flowering time but are not thick enough to interfere with the flowers. This variety appears to be extremely difficult to establish out of doors in this country and for that reason is rarely seen. Due to the very early leaf growth, considerable damage can be caused by frost and rain, the bulbs do not appear to ripen properly and soon die out. If the pan is well ripened off after flowering the bulbs should be perfectly all right for the following season.

Iris Tingitana. Although not a rare iris it is uncommon in that the variety can seldom be found listed in a Nurseryman's bulb catalogue. It is barely hardy outside and for this reason the Dutch iris Wedgewood (rather similar in colour and growth) is much better known. However, *Iris Tingitana* makes an exceptionally fine pot plant, is easily grown and can be brought into bloom in November without trouble. The bulbs are planted in September in size 48 pots (which take 5 bulbs comfortably) and are then plunged outside and covered with fine clinker to a depth of 4 inches. Growth starts almost at once and by the first week in October the leaves will probably be showing through the clinker. It is then advisable to cover them to a further depth of 6 inches, and as soon as the leaves show through this, bring the pots inside. Depending on the amount of warmth they will be in bloom in about three weeks time, say by mid-November though flowering can be put off by keeping the pots in a cooler position. I imagine that by not planting the bulbs until mid-October it would be possible to have them in bloom for Christmas. *Iris tingitana*, the largest of the *Xiphium*

section, comes from Tangiers. The variety Fontanesii is probably better than the type. The flowers are light blue in colour with a central ridge of deep orange yellow on the falls, and are borne on stems 18" to 24" high. Sometimes the falls are flecked with dark patches, which is caused by a disease in the bulbs. These are imported from Southern France.

A Hobby Has Gone to Pot

HAROLD R. SMITH, (PENNA.)

That an iris breeder never quits, even when he can find no place to grow his seedlings is understandable by Irisarians engaged in this pastime. In my case, the lack of garden space has turned my attention to what has proved a very interesting venture—pot culture for out-of-season bloom.

An examination of all the A.I.S. BULLETINS issued since January 1946, has failed to reveal anything whatever on the subject. Aside from statements made by certain commercial growers that clumps of iris could be lifted and bloomed in large pots or tubs, information along this line has been conspicuously absent.

In November 1946 I planted two rhizomes each of two fall-blooming seedling varieties in a six inch pot. Both rhizomes of one variety bloomed during the last week of June and the first week of July. The others flowered in late September and October. This initial success spurred me to determine by experimental plantings whether bearded iris could be flowered indoors in off-season with the same window culture given ordinary house plants. These limited trials definitely show it can be done successfully, providing suitable varieties are used and the simple requirements are understood. With one exception, the tests included neither the single flowered dwarfs nor the tall bearded varieties, but were confined to semi-dwarf re-bloomers, which in the light of experience appear necessary to insure late fall and winter bloom. This conclusion should be held in abeyance however, until more varieties are tested. Protected from the usual hazards of outdoor culture, the little remontants have flowered consistently in four to six inch pots, maturing in four to ten months and displaying their best form and color indoors.

I expect to test Ultra, Autumn Elf and Southland, but some of the old well-known varieties were not considered worthy of a trial either because of the rhizomes and foliage being too large or because they lacked quality. It is obvious why I shall not recommend varieties to use, at this time, for the limited tests were made largely with my own seedlings which were branched and in balance with the size of the pots.

Certainly the breeding of small intermediate re-bloomers has lagged behind other sections to date.

Here are the specific results of a few tests:

Autumn Queen, the little two-flowered white, finally opened a single flower on January 11th. The first test was abandoned when it appeared to be overdue.

My only seedling of Autumn Queen, an ivory self, is exhibiting the same traits. Its pot value is doubtful, but it appears likely to flower by March this time, from a rhizome planted in May.

A seedling of Ultra bloomed on each trial. Planted in November it flowered on May 1st and on another occasion in late June and early July. This interesting seedling has produced some offspring as sports or color variants. A color variant bloomed in the garden in November and flowered in pots in January and February. A slender seedling of the Ultra derivative proved to be my best winter variety, flowering easily in January, February and March.

A seedling of the variety, Eleanor Roosevelt, proved as persistent in pot-blooming in September, October, November and December as it does in the garden in the fall. On one occasion it bloomed in July. On another, one rhizome bloomed in October with the second flowering before and on Christmas day. It is difficult to get bloom in December and January owing to the absence of sunlight.

A lavender-purple remontant developed slowly in a five inch pot and flowered in October from one of three rhizomes planted in January.

Two four inch seedlings of Jean Siret failed to bloom indoors; however, these dwarfs were not re-bloomers. As for Jean Siret, it was not tested as its quality did not appeal to me.

I have had buds developed in every month of the year excepting April and August. I am sure this is merely a coincidence because the time of blooming appears to be governed by the time of full development of the rhizomes, which is usually indicated by the growth of two or more fans as side increase. The time of full development seems to be determined by:

1. The time of potting.
2. The fertility of the soil.
3. The amount of light and degree of temperature provided.
4. Sufficient moisture.

I have potted the largest sized rhizomes at various times but would suggest leaving them in the garden until about July 1st. If they are potted late in the season the shock of transplanting will retard bloom during the winter.

Dwarf-like varieties may be started in 3½ to 4 inch pots while larger types will require 4½ to 5 inch sizes. It is advisable to re-pot at five or six month intervals in ½ inch larger pots. Standard clay

Figure a, Proliferation on Tall Bearded Iris Bloomstalk.

Figure b, an Ultra X Sass seedling, "Sport," blooming in February.

Figure c, lifted in November, this seedling bloomed January 23.



Figure A.

pots should be used. Cans or other containers are not satisfactory because some damage may result when re-potting.

I have not determined whether iris bloom more freely after becoming rootbound but they will usually be found ready to tap into larger containers in six months time. Care should be taken to tamp enriched soil around the balled roots so as to avoid air pockets; then they should be watered thoroughly. On the initial planting, the soil should be firmed around the roots, leaving the rhizome lying on the surface partially exposed. Full or partial exposure tends to deter rot, and I believe it encourages bloom.

Rich soil is important. I use a mixture of one half rotted manure with clean soil further enriched by adding a pinch of balanced fertilizer and a little bone meal to the lower three-fourths of the pot. I have



Figure B.



Figure C.

never had rot present indoors, although I do not place manure in contact with the rhizomes. Nitrogenous fertilizers such as nitrate of soda should never be used. I expect to test certain potting mediums that may assist in providing fertility and holding moisture in order to eliminate frequent watering and to hasten maturity.

A long period indoors makes the leaves slender. I find it best to move the plants to the garden in the spring, sinking the pots to the level of the ground. When rainfall is not sufficient, I occasionally water them with the hose until I take them indoors again in the fall.

As to "forcing," I have quickly obtained buds by carefully lifting small clumps of fully matured rhizomes with the soil attached, placing them in large pots and moving them to a window. If many of the thread-like feeding roots are broken or the soil is not firmed and thoroughly watered, the emerging buds may "blast."

I have referred to variants appearing among the Ultra seedlings' increase, so perhaps I should describe the unusual performance of the latest one at the risk of "extending my neck" by labeling it a sport. This seedling normally opens its flowers flared, then droops the falls; so when a small rhizome of a color variant bloomed in mid-June with better substance and flaring falls that stayed flared, I was delighted, although I preferred the earlier season.

After the usual three flowers opened, another branch emerged at the axil of a bract which produced two more flowers from the 8th to the 14th of July, the normal season being the middle of May. By this time I was convinced this rhizome would have no increase and would eventually be lost, but to my amazement new growth appeared at axils of leaves and developed into plants instead of flowers as expected. The fans were suspended as though they were pinned to the stalk. As one rhizome had flowered in November, rot had started at the base of the green stem and had destroyed the remainder, excepting this small division which produced the break. I later removed these plants to pots for winter protection, including the bloomed-out rhizomes.

Mr. Eric Nies' article in the July issue of the BULLETIN entitled "Propagation by Proliferation" covered the subject of this phenomenon. Here was a rare case of proliferation along the stalk instead of at the terminals, the first I had ever seen.

I shall not attempt to discuss the latent factors that caused this variant to produce a division with spontaneously changed character, which altered the habit of growth, form, substance and color that appeared in the original seedling. It will be interesting to watch its further performance.

Since there are people who can never have a flower garden, I believe a line of these miniatures tested for indoor flowering would be a welcome addition. Why not establish a section to permit the bearded iris to take a place beside the other house plants?

K. D. SMITH *Introductions...*

GOLDEN HAWK ('51). Bright primrose yellow self, overlaid with metallic gold. No venation. Cupped standards, semi-flaring falls. Very smooth, large flower on 44-inch stalks. Four branches, midseason, H. C. 1950 \$35.00 NET

LADY ILSE ('51). Large ruffled flower of powder-blue with an iridescent sheen. No venation. 41 inches, three branches; late midseason. (Jane Phillips X Keene Valley) \$35.00 NET

HELEN COLLINGWOOD ('49). A beautiful neglecta with light lavender standards and brilliant violet-purple falls. Entirely different. 40 inches, four branches; late midseason, H. M. 1950 \$20.00

KEENE VALLEY ('49). Large flowers with a wide haft and really blue in color. Not only a fine parent but outstanding as an exhibition stalk. 42 inches. (sister seedling Blue Valley) H. M. 1950 \$20.00

GOLDEN DAYS ('49). A large brilliant yellow with substance like leather. Not tall, only 32 inches, but its large flowers make it command attention. Fine parent. \$7.50

FORT TICONDEROGA ('48). If you want brilliancy here it is. Glowing orange-red. Flowers on the medium size. 36 inches. \$7.50

BLUE VALLEY ('47). Very, very blue. 40 inches. H. M. 1949 \$7.50

FALL DAYS ('47). A symphony in rose and gold. Nothing can compare with it as a clump. H. M. 1947 \$10.00

MARION VAUGHN ('47). Soft lemon ice with a white flush at the heart. A dash of green makes it an outstanding clump. \$7.50

STATEN ISLAND ('47). A very bright variegata now considered the top in its class. A. M. Royal Hort. Soc. '50. \$8.00

ADMIRATION ('46). Very clean smooth yellow. Late. H. M. 1947.... \$5.00

TERMS—Cash with order. Shipments after July 4.
Any U. S. Sales Tax, when imposed, in addition.

K. D. Smith

Benedict Road, Dongan Hills
STATEN ISLAND 4, NEY YORK

Members of the AIS always welcome as garden visitors.
Height of season — May 30th.

Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

January 1, 1950 to January 1, 1951

RECEIPTS

Total receipts for 1950.....	\$20,210.00
Cash on hand January 1, 1950 in Third National Bank, Nashville, Tenn.	476.09
Petit Cash Account, Office of Secretary January 1, 1950	1,000.00
	<u>\$21,686.09</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Total disbursements for 1950	19,969.69
	<u>\$ 1,716.40</u>

CASH ON HAND—January 1, 1951 in Third National

Bank, Nashville, Tenn.....	\$ 716.40
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PETIT CASH ACCOUNT—Office of

Secretary, January 1, 1951.....	<u>1,000.00</u>
	\$1,716.40

* * * * *

ANALYSIS OF 1950 DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries—

Gladys Williams	\$ 1,815.00
Ruth Browne	1,012.50
Clerical & Bookkeeping	1,200.00
Editor	2,400.00
Extra Help	138.50
Secretary Traveling Expenses	91.38
Office Rent	240.00
Refunds	77.85
Miscellaneous	160.84
Postage	1,006.76
Office Supplies	771.56
RVP Expenses	146.64
Committee Expenses	1,061.69
Advertising	446.80
Bulletin—	
Printing	7,759.75
Engraving	654.53
Mitchell Books	186.08
Permanent Office Supplies (This includes 2 typewriters, 2 chairs & Ediphone)	799.81
	<u>\$19,969.69</u>

(Signed) CARL O. SCHIRMER, *Treasurer*
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

DWARF IRIS CLUB ISSUES PORTFOLIO

This so-called Portfolio Number 1, might well be called the YEAR-BOOK of the Dwarf Iris Club. It is complete in its presentation of the set-up of the club; it contains breeding notes, round-robin notes, reports, news, dissertations on genetics, the official Dwarf Symposium, the complete roster of the more than 100 members of the club. As Chairman of the Dwarf Iris Committee, Walter Welch of Middlebury, Ind. is the guiding spirit of the movement and persons wishing to join the Club should contact Mr. Welch. Walter edited the very excellent Portfolio and much of its contents are extracts from his correspondence with the many members.

The Executive Committee of the Club is composed of Mr. Welch as Chairman, Mrs. Geo. D. Robinson, Mrs. Leona Mahood, Mrs. C. M. Zirbel and Mrs. Vivian Grapes. According to a resolution passed by the AIS board of Directors, the Club is entitled to one accredited judge for each ten members, and the following ten appointees have been provided:

Mrs. Dorothy Dennis, 20 Oak Ridge Ave., Summit, N.J.
Mrs. B. E. Ellis, 118 No. Sheridan Ave., Ottumwa, Iowa.
Mrs. Vivian Grapes, Big Spring, Nebr.
Mrs. Edith Hudson, Stella, Nebr.
Mrs. M. N. Mahood, 11250 1st, N.W., Seattle, Wash.
Mrs. W. R. Hubbard, Rochester, Wash.
Mrs. William Razor, Rt. 2, Washington, Kansas.
Mrs. A. H. Schumann, 22219 Telegraph Rd., Detroit, Mich.
Mrs. H. A. Simonson, Port Angeles, Washington.
Mrs. R. E. Greenlee, Christman, Ill.

The Dwarf Iris Test Garden will be open to visitors in 1951. Prospective visitors should contact Mr. Welch for blooming dates.

Financial Report of the Exhibition Committee — 1950

RECEIPTS

Exhibition supplies—tags, envelopes, cards, etc.....	\$79.05
Total receipts	\$79.05

EXPENSE

Postage and Express	\$13.33
Printing	94.50
Engraving	47.00
Total expenses	\$154.83

To the best of my knowledge this is complete and correct to Sept. 30, 1950.

(Signed) FERN IRVING, Chairman.

Hanover Exposition

During June of 1950 the central office received a request for iris rhizomes from Dr. E. Biesalski, President of the newly organized German Iris Society. Dr. Biesalski advised that an exposition of great importance would take place in the city of Hanover in 1951 and he especially wanted the newer American varieties so that the German public could see the advances made in recent years. Believing that a considerable number of rhizomes would be available in Nashville for shipment in early fall, your Secretary volunteered to send the plants to Dr. Biesalski. Unfortunately we had a bad infestation of mustard seed fungus during the summer and both Mr. Wills and myself were reluctant to offer our stock for foreign shipment.

Time was short, so we appealed to Mr. Lloyd Austin of Placerville, California, for the rhizomes and he responded with the following list:

Ruffled Bouquet	Flaming Fire	Mission Madonna
Easter Gold	Bandmaster	Cherie
Easter Candle	Gay Senorita	Chamois
Rocket	Cloud Castle	Thunderhead
Blue Valley	Berkeley Gold	Solid Mahogany
Amandine	Magic Carpet	Sousun
Sierra Primrose	Yuma	

These were shipped by airmail in October. Later in November Mr. Austin shipped the following ARIL IRIS:

ONCOCYCLUS	ONCOGELIAS	REGELIAS
Susiana	Camilla	Stolonifera leichtlini
Atropurpurea	Artemis	Korolkowi, Brown & Green
	Teucros	Hoogiana

The BULLETIN looks upon this transaction as a small expression of international friendship. We are very happy to renew our acquaintance with the many Germans who are iris lovers, and to welcome them back into a great fraternity whose qualification for membership recognizes no national boundaries. We wish to thank Mr. Lloyd Austin for his part in making this possible.

Lastly, we wish much success to Dr. Biesalski in his effort to further interest in iris in his native Deutschland.



MAGIC VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY OFFICERS

(Left to Right): seated, Mrs. Ed Conrad, Buhl, President; Mrs. Alfred Kramer, Castleford, Recording Secretary. Standing Mrs. Rex Henderson, Gooding, Treasurer; Mrs. Arthur Walker, Kimberley, Vice-President. Photo, Times-News.

In December of 1950 an old iris group took on a new name—THE MAGIC VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY. Some thirty enthusiasts assembled from eight towns within a radius of fifty miles of Twin Falls, Idaho, adopted a constitution and, after a full program, made plans for a second meeting in March. The first meeting was presided over by Mrs. Ed Conrad.

* * * * *

HOHL IN ONE

Word has been received from Miss Dorothy Ryan, that Mr. Julius J. Hohl of Oklahoma City, has been elected President of the Oklahoma Iris Society. This group of enthusiastic irisarians has been instrumental in spreading the iris gospel in Oklahoma which has resulted in a large increase in membership in that state. Our congratulations go to Mr. Hohl as the new leader of this very active group.

Irving William Fraim, M. D. (1889-1951)

With the passing from this life of Dr. Irving W. Fraim on January 16 The American Iris Society and especially Region One, has lost a competent judge and one of its most valued members.

Twenty years ago he and Mrs. Fraim planned their present home and its surroundings. Together they have built their lives into its landscaping until it has become an "enchanted garden"—a beautiful and restful oasis on the edge of the din and turmoil of city life.

Dr. Fraim's energy and ability which made him "the best quarterback Waltham High ever had" also contributed much to his success in the medical profession and to his avocation as a gardener.

The Fraim garden is of outstanding interest to all visitors for it contains many of the newer narcissus, hemerocallis and other choice garden flowers. However, Dr. Fraim's chief interest was iris and he was beginning to achieve real success in hybridizing. His other hobby was orchids with which he had worked for years and had accumulated an outstanding collection.

He embodied four fundamental characteristics of a successful gardener:—He used every available means to improve the garden; attempted to find the cause and remedy of garden troubles; generously shared his garden and its contents with many and encouraged others to create and enjoy their own garden.

Dr. Fraim was an able surgeon and sympathetic physician. He was enthusiastic, tireless and generous; uncompromising with truth and integrity; disliked disparaging gossip and was a genuine friend.

He is survived by Mrs. Fraim who has been a real partner in all his endeavors, especially in the planning, landscaping and caring for their garden.

His friendly manner, helpful spirit, cheerful disposition and genial smile will be sorely missed by his host of iris friends.

One of our greatest privileges was to have known him.

—FRANKLIN P. LOWRY, M. D.

Our Members Write . . .

THE WEATHER

Southern California this December is having its usual unusual weather. Days are about 80 degrees and nights about 40 degrees. No frost yet; so the iris are being led to believe that spring is here. There must be at least one hundred bloom stalks in my garden. Fort Knox is giving its third series of blooms for 1950. Mariposa Mia, Lady Mohr, and other standard varieties are blooming. Among the intermediates, Ultra can always be counted on for December bloom, and perky little Gay Hussar has two stalks of bright color. There are five stalks on Hall's 46/09, which is a fine pink. Numerous seedlings are making their second bloom.

PRECOCIOUS SEEDLINGS

Every once in a while someone shows an interest in this subject. Tom Craig once told me that he had bloomed a seedling in nine months from seed planting. I have not done that well. My current experience is fourteen months. On September 7th, 1949, along with other seeds, I planted 36 seeds of (Spindrift X Isabelina) X Hall's 46/09. Thirty-three of these germinated and were set out early in June 1950. The first was in bloom by November 7, 1950, and four others have already bloomed. Not one was worth keeping. I am glad to be able to throw them out early. They all had wide open standards. Planted and set out at the same time were eight of (Blue Shimmer seedling) X (Hi-Jin seedling) of which two have already bloomed. These are interesting enough to hold over for I fancy I can see a suspicion of Onco heritage in them. Hi-Jin is 25% Onco.

EARLY GERMINATORS

1950 seeds were planted during the Labor Day week end. The ground was well soaked prior to planting; since then the bed has been left to the

weather, and we've had a total of 1.70 inches in three and a half months. I buried the surface under three or four inches of fallen leaves from elm and carob trees to protect the bed from our 100 degree October-November temperatures. The leaves have now collapsed and the seedlings are showing through. The first to show was from a volunteer seedpod on Elan, which is (Purissima x Susiana). Elan has been considered as a sterile flower, so the seedpod received a special mention in my notes. These seedlings are now four inches high. Next to show was from Fair Enough, also (Purissima x Susiana), which had been pollenized by (Crimson King x Ib-Mac).

AXILLARY RHIZOMES

There has been occasional comment on these. Three instances have come to my notice in San Gabriel this year. Fort Knox, Welcome and seedling GD 703F have all increased by this means. Some years ago, in one of the gardening magazines I read how lilium Henryi could be induced to make axillar bulb-lets by causing a certain degree of damage to the underground portion of the stem. So when GD 703F showed this kind of development, I watched the growth closely. I was watching it anyway for it was forming a seedpod, but the seedpod began to wither after reaching 75% of maturity. The serial rhizomes grew in groups of 3, 3 and 2, and they continued to grow until the seedpod fell off, completely withered. I lifted the parent rhizome and found that an earwig had drilled into it, was still in until I killed it. I am interpreting this as an instance of the iris plant's determination to continue its existence; i.e. its "will to live." If it was not the custom to remove spent bloom stalks, it is probable that increase by axillary rhizomes would be seen so frequently

that no comment would be made.

MY GARDEN HAS NO GATE

It is always open to visitors. Last night, it had an undesirable visitor. A stray horse trampled through the seedling beds, breaking markers, leaving hoof-deep footprints and treading some plants deep into the ground. I have not seen a horse in this community for years. Yesterday, I had cleaned the bird bath, and filled it afresh for the birds' Christmas, so, this A.M., when I went out, the first thing I noticed was the empty bird bath and couldn't imagine what had happened. I soon found out.

OTHER FLOWERS

My wife is getting lots of pleasure out of her Camellias. Last spring a friend gave her two cuttings of *C. reticulata*.

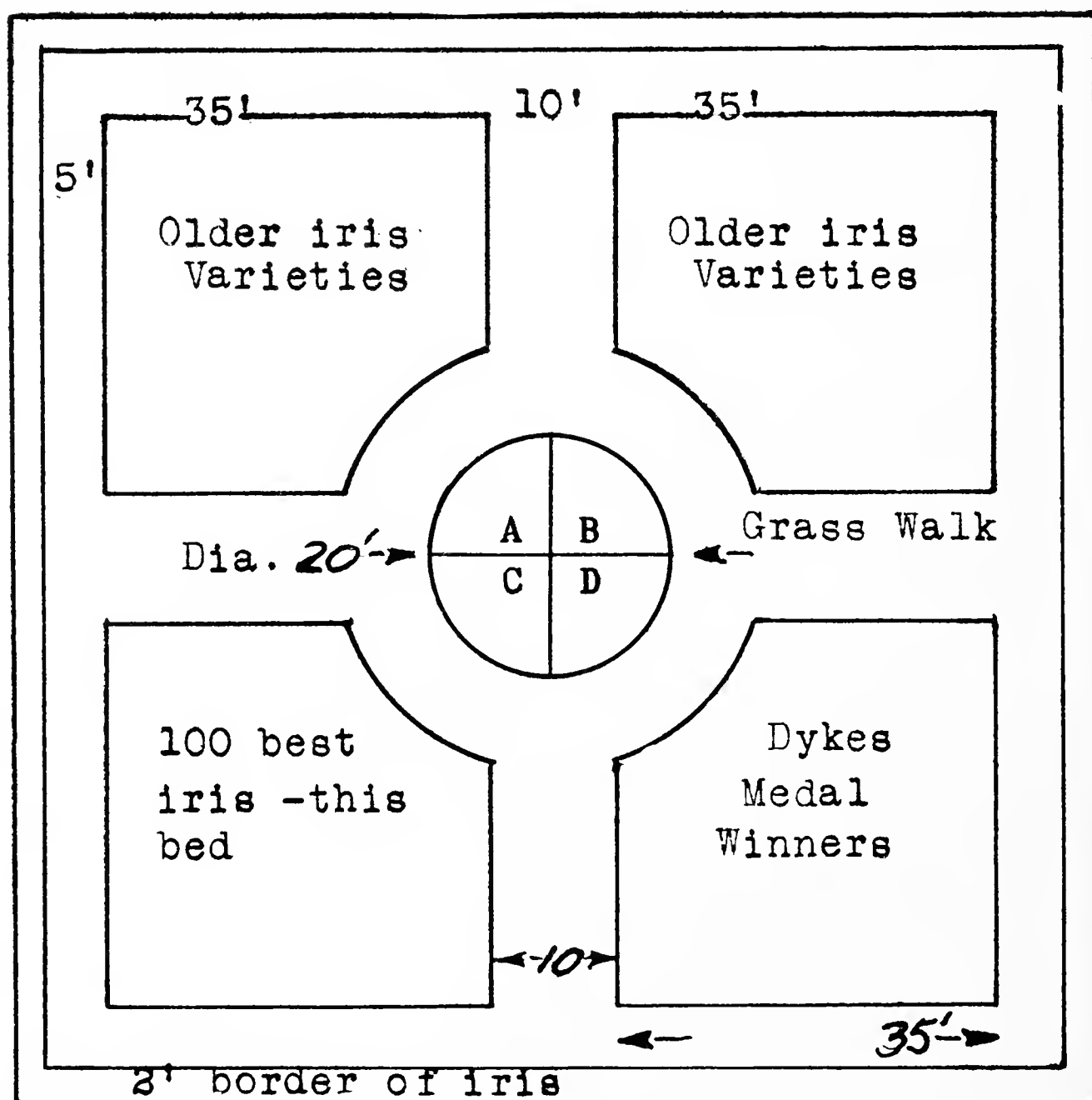
One she used in a cleft graft on root stock and the other was rooted in sand. Both are successful. Sasanqua is over for this season, one of the Apple Blossom type has been grand for the past month. Debutante is at its peak, we cut the first from Finlandia this week, the Chandleri are still to come.

Our kitchen window is full of bloom from the Christmas begonias and African violets.—ROY W. FIELDING, Calif.

ACTIVITY IN DETROIT

In order that you may be acquainted with the activities of the Detroit Iris Society, I am going to give you a brief outline of what we have done during this past year.

The study of iris goes on in our society the year around, through book



DETROIT IRIS SOCIETY DISPLAY GARDEN—The center planting is composed of A, Wabash; B, Snow Flurry; C, Ola Kala and D, Great Lakes.

reviews, garden tours, and round table discussions. We have kept monthly records of birds during the year to cooperate with the Audubon Society. To help our national conservation program, a contribution was made to the teachers scholarship fund.

Some of our members took time to attend the Region 6 meeting at Columbus, Ohio, and also the Annual Meeting of the American Iris Society at Sioux City, Iowa, and brought back pictures of new iris introductions and of irises soon to be introduced.

Most of our members know how to hybridize and have experienced the thrill of watching their own creations come into bloom.

One of our honorary members, Mr. Chas. U. Bear who is a nationally known authority on iris has compiled an iris classification pamphlet which was made available to iris society members.

By the combined efforts of all members the greatest achievement of the year was accomplished on the fifteenth anniversary of the Detroit Iris Society. Our Display Garden was almost completely replanted.

The Display Garden consists of over 5,000 square feet of iris and is directly east of the beautiful Rackham Memorial Fountain pool. It is set off by a background of trees and curving lanes and is located at the Detroit Zoological Park, Woodward Avenue at Ten Mile Road in Detroit and is easily accessible by bus and car.

The accompanying sketch gives an idea of the layout. The center circular bed, 20 feet in diameter is planted for color effect with Ola Kala, Great Lakes, Snow Flurry and Wabash. The 100 best iris, from the symposium selected by judges of the American Iris Society were planted in one of the four surrounding beds. In another adjoining area all the Dykes Medal Winners, English, French and American were assembled.

The two other beds contain older varieties which show by comparison how iris have advanced with the times. Around these beds is a two foot border

of iris which we hope to fill in with newer introductions later. This Display Garden will give any flower lover a chance to enjoy the beauties of the best in iris and enable him to identify them by actually seeing their bloom.

The Detroit Zoological Park is open to the public and over 1,800,000 people visited this park last year from Decoration Day until the end of September.

—MRS. MARGARET BULL, Mich.

Region 3 had two very good reports from Dr. Dollman and Mr. John C. Lyster, but they were too modest about their own gardens, both of which are well worth visiting. While Dr. Dollman's is very crowded, it is a wonderful sight with many of the latest introductions and he combines the colors in a charming manner.

Mr. Lyster has a more formal effect with open lawn and specializes in large clumps of each variety, more so than in any other garden in this locality.

Any one who wishes this spring can see four large garden collections of iris in a range of five miles, taking in Mr. Lyster's at Aldan, mine at Primos, Dr. Dollman's and Swarthmore College's, and each garden is different from the others. Formal—informal—crowded and scientific.

I would be glad to give any one information as to how to reach these exhibits.—EDWIN L. PALMER, Pa.

I was very much interested in the article by Isabelle Henderson in the January A.I.S. BULLETIN. As you probably know, the Washington vicinity is national headquarters for iris borer. I moved to Arlington, Virginia in 1946 and immediately had one of the most severe borer problems I ever experienced. At that time DDT was rather hard to obtain so I began to look for other controls. The past three seasons I have had wonderful results with the use of benzene hexachloride. I had considerable trouble to find a satisfactory sticker that would give good coverage. I found that if I used one level tablespoon of casein glue to a gallon of water,

I had a perfect sticker—provided my spray was in the form of mist. I was able to create this misty spray by making a disc for my sprayer with a hole that was about 1/150th of an inch in diameter and to apply at a pressure of about 30 pounds.

For spraying purposes I always used 50% wettable BHC. At first, my applications were about 2 tablespoons per gallon of the mixture, but last year I had very satisfactory results by using 2 tablespoons of 50% BHC to 3 gallons of water to which the casein sticker had been added. I make the first application about March 15 and two additional applications about April 1 and April 15. No additional spraying is done during or after the blooming season. After the blooming period, an application of 5% BHC dust is made to the ground around the iris clumps. This dust is applied at the rate of about 1½ pounds per 100 square feet of the ground surface.

For a period of years June beetles were bad in clumps of the Orientals. One application in June of the liquid spray was sufficient to control them for two years. The spray mixture was poured over the clump and about 2 quarts of mixture was used per clump.

Heavy applications of BHC leave objectionable odors which can be transferred to hands and feet. But by using applications of the amounts mentioned above, while the odor is apparent at the time of application, it is not noticeable after four or five hours.

In 1948, control clumps not treated showed that approximately 70% were infected with from 2 to 14 borers per clump, while sprayed and treated clumps showed less than 2% infection of 1 to 2 borers per clump. By 1950, borers were practically eliminated in my garden. BHC has a lasting effect for several years and last year 20 plants that had not been sprayed during 1950 showed no borers at all. Untreated clumps in 1950 all showed iris borers.

While I do not contend that these experiments of mine are conclusive, I do believe that the evidence is suffi-

ciently conclusive that the information should be passed on so that others can conduct similar experiments and reliable information obtained from several different sources.

Thrip here has always been bad on Oriental iris. I found that a weekly dusting up to the time of blooming with 1% parathion dust is 100% control. Care must be taken, however, not to dust the blooms as it will mottle and fade them.

The Regional Meeting of Region 4 will be held in Washington about April 20. At that time we should be at the height of our bloom. We hope to be able to make it a two-day affair—one to be spent at the United States Department of Agriculture Experimental Station at Beltsville, Maryland, and one day visiting gardens and an Iris Show which we hope to put on at that time. Any program of this kind in Washington on account of war conditions, however, is subject to change, but we hope for the best.—ARTHUR S. MASON, Va.

LETTER TO JACK WISTER

Many, many moons ago you wrote to me asking details of iris culture in Australia—and I regretted having to reply that after an excellent beginning around 1913-14 the growing of irises had declined so as to be almost negligible.

Since the last war there has been a revival of interest in the genus—probably assisted greatly by the strides made by U.S.A. breeders, as new colorings surely do attract attention and arouse desire to possess and grow.

So far this season I have secured the membership of 7 Australians into the American Iris Society—3 to the English and as many to the New Zealand Iris Society, so we hope to be on the pathway to more knowledge.

Our flowering season is about to begin, and during its time I hope to visit the seedling plantings of each of our few local raisers to learn how their standards compare with overseas varieties. Am growing a collection of vari-

eties raised and named in Australia (Aylett, Errey Bros., Harrison) as well as modern varieties from U. S. A., New Zealand, England and France. Really am curious to learn if Harry Randall is right in his sweeping condemnation of all except Americans.

Naturally I have not the very latest U. S. A. varieties, but have sent over—to my dollar limit—for a few of the latest such as Pacemaker. Cloth of Gold—Blue Shimmer—Pink Cameo—Lady Mohr etc. are already here and now showing signs of foliage—the few Dwarfs I possess are just going off.

Named one of own seedling Unguicularis this year after my baby Winsome (her name really is Iris Winsome and she is wed to a wheat farmer). Its coloring attracts as it is between Bluebird Blue and Lobelia Blue of the Horticultural Chart (which I have and am not over-satisfied with); and hope to name a very fine Fontanesi seedling.

Have Stevens' (N. Z.) named I. in-nominatas flowering today. Although I am still growing new lilioms and have 150 varieties, besides thousands of Nerines, daffodils, gladiolas, watsonias, ixias and even rhododendron and azaleas—some very foolish members of the Iris Society elected me President of this Society—fortunately only for 1950—and I really should do the position justice by learning more about the irises now appearing on the skyline abroad.

Your opinion of the best of the "100 best"—or of any varieties which you think may supersede present top varieties would be very much welcomed by us here—whether for publication or merely to be read at a meeting of members. Have always been keen on the bulbous irises—and am anxious to once again grow Lortetii and Gatesii of the oncos. Tubergen may send the former and is on the lookout for Gatesii this year.—GILBERT ERREY, Australia

I have been intending to write and report on the Calgary iris situation ever since last spring. Our season was late—peak blooms in the first week of July. By the time I had recovered from the

happy days (or daze) of the bloom season, my family was ill, and before I had them cured, I was back at school trying to fit too many children into too few rooms.

I enclose a list of some of the iris we had (some didn't bloom) and I am happy to say that I've added about seventy-five new ones for next year. The Muhlestein seedlings were very good. Mrs. Allbright sent me a couple she had selected, and the others I got from Tell direct. I got a cross on the best one from Edward of Windsor (got the pollen from Bob Brews who has some good pinks), but the pod was nipped by the frost. Hope some of the seeds germinate.

Despite unsettled weather, we had swarms of visitors, and many of them are getting started with a few good ones. So far Calgary just has three members, but we should get some more next year.

Our proudest achievement this year was one lonely bloom on a fimbriata. I got it from a friend in California, wintered it in the house, and transplanted it in the spring. It multiplies at a great rate, so I brought some in this fall to try again.

I got seed of about two dozen wild varieties from Thompson & Morgan last spring, and planted them in the garden. Some germinated and I am leaving them to see if they will survive the winter. So far the score is 5 Tectorum seedlings, 3 Clarkei, 1 Setora, 1 Montana, 3 Festidissima, and 9 Forrestii—also a couple of Dichotoma, but I've had others of that for several years. I'm afraid my methods are most unscientific, but seeds are cheap, and anything that survives my treatment must be hardy. Just remember there were some In-nominata and Graminea that germinated too, but I moved them into the rock garden, also 24 Douglasiana came leaping up in another row.

We've just about reached the stage when our vegetable plot will be confined to a clump of chives in the rockery and some parsley in a pot on the kitchen window sill. Isn't it about time the

"Easterners" stopped suggesting that modern iris are "doubtfully hardy" in the west? We do lose a few, but San Francisco bloomed beautifully in 1949. This year it didn't bloom but looks disgustingly healthy. Some, like Purissima and Easter Morn, refuse to bloom or die, so I keep on hoping. Elmohr and Prairie Sunset have bloomed for three years in a row and Great Lakes two years out of three. Perhaps it is just beginner's luck, but I'll let you know again next year.—HERB DICKSON, Alberta, Canada.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN INTEREST IN ARIL IRIS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

You are to be congratulated on the January 1951 BULLETIN! That issue contains the finest assemblage of authoritative and worth-while articles on the ARIL IRIS and their descendants of any publication I have ever seen. For the uninitiated I may explain that the ARILS include three distinct but closely-related types of iris, namely, the famed Oncocyclus species, their cousins the artistic Regelias, and the wonderful hybrids of these two, known most simply and euphoniously as Oncogelias, but sometimes referred to as Regeliocyclus Hybrids. The ARILS all have very similar cultural requirements and are positively distinguished from all other iris by the fact that they alone, of all the iris, have distinct white arils, or collars, on the seeds. Hence you, Geddes Douglas, pertinently suggested that they might popularly be known as the "White Collar Iris."

I am quite surprised, and delighted, at how well you were able to reproduce in enlarged black and white pictures in the BULLETIN the 35 mm. color slides that Dr. Corliss took here at the Rainbow Gardens last spring, showing the Onco species Susiana, the Brown and Green form of the Regelia species Korolkowi, and two views of the Oncogelia Parthenope. Sam Caldwell also had a dandy picture of the Oncogelia Thor.

Another index of the rapidly rising tide of interest in the ARILS is that

ARIL CLUBS are beginning to be formed in various parts of the country. The world's first, as far as I am aware, was organized by Chet Thompkins in Sioux City, Iowa, last fall. They will call theirs the ARIL ONE CLUB unless some other group can claim an earlier organization date. Chet visited me recently, and he certainly has under way an impressive and highly promising series of hybridization experiments involving Oncos, Regelias, and their derivatives. I am so pleased with this increasing interest in ARILS that I am this year sponsoring a contest among the ARIL CLUBS, and offering worth-while prizes to the most accomplished among them.

In the various interesting discussions of the different ARILS, the one disconcerting note seems to be the quite general, but uniformly confusing, loose and improper use of the terms "Onco," "Oncocyclus" and "Onco Hybrids."

People who do not have any of the true Oncos, or perhaps nothing but the quite commonly-grown Susiana (and such people are legion), come to call any iris having some Onco blood an Onco. But to me, with 30 true Oncocyclus species in the garden here at Placerville, and also many genuine Onco Hybrids resulting from crossing different real Oncos *with each other* (not with Bearded Iris), such a practice seems highly inaccurate and decidedly confusing. This is especially true when people write about their "Onco Hybrids," with no way for the reader to know what they mean. Do they have real "Onco Hybrids," or are they first or later generation crosses of Oncos with Bearded Iris, which should properly be called Onco-Bearded Hybrids, or Oncobreds, for short? Let's be specific in our writings, so the reader may understand what we are talking about!

True Oncos are becoming more and more plentiful, and quite a number of different species can now be purchased at very reasonable prices. So their extreme scarcity, which has existed for decades, is gradually being overcome, and now nearly every iris enthusiast

can try his hand quite generously with those species which are universally recognized as being the most fascinating and exotic of all iris. One has to see them but once to feel their magnetic appeal. From then on they are coveted as are no other iris!—LLOYD AUSTIN, Calif.

CULTURE OF RARE BULBOUS AND TUBEROUS IRISES

These directions are for the JUNO irises, the RETICULATAS, the SNAKE'S HEAD iris and the well known DUTCH and SPANISH iris, but are not for the ENGLISH iris.

Store bulbs or tubers in a bag of Vermiculite or dry sand until planting time in October. Select a sunny, well drained spot and incorporate both lime and bonemeal in the soil. In order to be assured of good drainage add enough soil to raise the bed several inches above the surrounding level, or hill-up the rows and plant along the ridge. Cover the bulbs from two to three inches—deeper in light soil, shallower in heavy soil. In cold regions, mulch with a three inch layer of straw, excelsior or some other light airy material. Many of these iris are perfectly hardy and may be left in the ground from two to three years, but if mulch is used, it should be removed after danger of heaving is past. In climates of heavy rainfall, it is best to dig the bulbs as soon as the foliage dies down after blooming and store as above indicated in a cool, dry basement until fall.

For pot culture, plant in large, flat pots in October and sink the pot in the ground in a protected place. Mulch if necessary and bring into the house or conservatory at any time desired. Care should be taken to provide adequate drainage, and to prevent excessive watering.—LLOYD AUSTIN, Calif.

Our BULLETINS are good and interesting. I have only one complaint, to me it is simply heart rending to see so very many new registrations each year and it is getting worse. I have nothing against those our good old breeders put out but so many of the breeders now

have only grown iris as few as three years, and most of them started during the last war when it was almost impossible for the commercial growers to fill any kind of an order in full. Many people felt growing iris was a gold mine. They started breeding at once and as soon as 50—100 or 500 seedlings bloomed had 3 or 4 that they were certain could be and should be registered. Please, please raise or vote the registration fee to five or ten dollars, as it will slow up the novices who really know very few of the older irises when they see them.—CHRISTINE M. HOFFMAN, Iowa.

It might please you to know that iris enthusiasts of Rush County, Kansas met last March for the purpose of organizing a flower and garden club. Purpose realized, and The Rush County Garden Club became a lively group of fifty-two members who voted the iris their club flower. Better than two-thirds of the members have an iris garden or grow several varieties along with other flowers.

The club is looking forward to an iris show in the spring. We are hoping Mother Nature will give us favorable weather and produce nice blooms for our show.—MRS. W. N. ROBERTS, Kans.

I believe I get more for my money in this \$3.50 check than any other I write during the year! It is remarkable to compare the new Bulletins with those of 10 years ago and see the improvement. At that time they seemed above the head of the amateur, but now with the Robin's Roost and articles from the Members it has come down to earth. The quality of the paper is far better as are all the pictures. I consider my collection of the Bulletin priceless as I have 53 issues and have them indexed so I'm able to find what I want in a matter of minutes. My Bulletins are available to anyone who wishes them for reference although I never lend them out. (Probably why I still have the collection.)

Our Santa Barbara Iris Society met last evening with an attendance of

thirty-eight which is not bad for a winter month. Interest certainly has not lagged. Perhaps it is because our iris have continued to bloom most of the winter. There were quite a number of blooms on exhibit at the meeting. Our greatest worry now is will they bloom again in the Spring. One member, who blooms some of the older varieties twice the size grown in other gardens, was asked how he did it. His answer in three words was sufficient, "We have horses." He said they used wood shavings in the stalls and that with the manure must be the answer.—MELVA O. MOON, Calif.

The January number is up to if not better than most and I especially liked the article about *Onco* and *Regelia* species by Lawrence Neel of England. Would be glad to hear more about culture of these irises by growers in our own country. I am also impressed by such writers as John H. Ohl, Tom Craig, and Tell Muhlestein and their generosity in telling of their work in hybridizing.
—C. W. PAINE, Ind.

They tell me that advice is free, and mostly bad—so here's mine—free and unasked for: That when such a list as the 100 best—or most popular—or whatever we call it, is published, the list of those elected to the Hall of Fame be also published, preferably, super-imposed. Possibly that is what Mr. Allen intended, but forgot. Better still, leave them right in the 100 best until such a time as they are pushed off the board by better—or more popular varieties. Why sneak them out by the back door?

Catalog-wise, it makes no difference, as our catalogs—and Maxwell's too, are already printed, but many fans do follow the Symposium rather closely, in the national flower magazines.—JACK G. LINSE, Wash.

One of my favorites of the iris family is the *reticulata* group. These miniature bulbous iris are the earliest to bloom and to my mind the most beautiful of the species. They grow well in the

rock garden and are equally at home in the sunny flower border. Since they bloom before the trees leaf in this zone they may be planted under trees and shrubs where the bright colors bring a splash of light to the drab winter picture. They vary in height from five to eight inches according to variety; unlike the bearded iris, the spear shaped foliage grows a few inches taller than the bloomstalk. The *reticulata* iris is sometimes called the netted iris due to the curious netted pattern of the husk covering the dry bulb. These bulbs do well here in northwestern Oklahoma, when planted in soil containing plenty of humus and a liberal amount of fertilizer. In fact, a single bulb in a year's time when left undisturbed has produced a clump of six bulbs the following spring. They start blooming with the first warm days of spring; the last of February will sometimes find their pretty faces showing through the snow. They are delightfully fragrant, smelling much like a bunch of violets. The perfume is stronger on warm days. They look like the Dutch iris in miniature and range in color from dark purple to sky blue with orange markings or yellow crests. One of the *reticulata* varieties is a bicolor with sky blue standards, and rich reddish purple falls with a bright yellow crest. *Danfordiae*, a *Juno* iris, greatly resembles the *reticulatas* and I always plant it with them and treat it the same. It is bright yellow and blooms at the same time. This little known iris is not expensive and is equally good to pot and force indoors.
—IMOGENE BRANCH, Okla.

We want more comments on iris in the BULLETIN if you can get them. We do not see the ones that are introduced in the East or Middle West, so it helps to read the comments of some who have seen them. I do wish that adverse criticism would be published along with favorable comments. It seems as if those who send in varietal comments simply fail to mention those iris that do not impress them in quality or performance. Let's have the faults along with the virtues! That would be honest to the

buyer and help to lessen the mistakes made by the buying public.—Mrs. L. B. LOSEY, Wash.

QUESTIONS And Answers

Did the variety Spun Gold ever receive the Dykes Medal, and if so what year?

—EDITH ORR, Tenn.

The variety Spun Gold was raised by the late Mr. Howard R. Glutzbeck, of Lynbrook, L. I., New York. It received an H. M. in 1939, an A. M. in 1942 and in 1944 was awarded the Dykes Medal. The accompanying photograph shows (left to right) Mr. Glutzbeck, Mr.

space to store them. Breeders of iris have to dispose of tons of discarded seedlings, dead iris leaves, and surplus stock and trimmings each year. It seems to me that this is unnecessary waste and that this material, if properly used, would largely solve the humus problem.

I am wondering if one could place all of these iris garden "wastes" in a compost pile with topsoil, sods, tree leaves, etc., turn the pile two or three times, keeping it moist, and a year later use it as manure in the lower spit of a double-dug iris garden. A commercial fertilizer low in nitrogen, such as a potato fertilizer might be added to speed bacterial action; possibly also ground limestone.—EDWIN RUNDLETT, Staten I., N.Y.



Kenneth D. Smith, Mr. Geddes Douglas, Mrs. Thomas Nesmith and the late Mr. T. A. Washington. This photo was taken in 1939 in the Nesmith garden.

Outside of the dairy farm country, manure of good quality is unobtainable except at prohibitive cost. Gardeners in congested districts have difficulty finding sufficient composting materials, and

Your suggestion that gardeners make a compost heap with their discarded iris plants, dead leaves, weeds and other organic matter for use as fertilizer in their iris gardens is an excellent one, in my opinion. But it would be advisable to wait at least two or three years before using the compost unless it is worked into the soil well below the surface. Otherwise, diseases might be carried

over from the plants that went into the compost heap and reinfest healthy plants in the garden.

From my own experience in growing irises for more than 15 years and from visiting iris gardens throughout the country from coast to coast I am convinced that iris plants are heavy feeders and do best in soils that are well supplied with both organic and inorganic nutrients. The best gardens usually have a compost heap near at hand or other sources of organic matter, which is being used freely along with commercial fertilizers to give the plants a well balanced food supply.

However, too much fertilizer is just as undesirable as too little for iris. Tender, succulent growth with very tall, weak stems and oversized blooms of poor quality may result from too-heavy applications of inorganic fertilizer, especially with abundant rainfall and relatively high temperatures during the two or three weeks preceding the blooming season.

In preparing the soil for iris, plenty of organic matter from a compost heap, well-rotted manure or other similar material should be used along with a commercial fertilizer having a nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium ratio fairly high in phosphorus, as for example a 5-10-5 mixture. Thereafter, very little additional fertilizer is needed for the next year or two, except possibly a light side dressing of the same fertilizer early in the spring.—L. F. RANDOLPH, N.Y.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following seven questions are from Eleanor Westmeyer, Stonham, Mass.

How soon after the seed pod forms may the iris stalk be picked for artificial ripening? What are the proportions of the sugar solution used for ripening? Will the pods broken off the stalk ripen successfully?

During the past ten years I have successfully cut off iris bloom stalks, with seed pods attached, in late June or early July (four to five weeks after the actual cross was made) and have

had the seeds ripen and later germinate as well as though they had matured on the plant. The seeds pods had always attained their full size but were dark green in color and had shown no sign of ripening. I would cut the stalk at the base of the rhizome and then simply stick it into one of the garden beds. The pods ripened on the stalk just as though they were still growing attached to the rhizome. My reason for doing this was because I found if I remade iris beds in late June, that the transplanted iris would perform the following year as well as if they had not been moved. Sometimes a seed pod would be broken off and these I would take into garden house and place on a shelf where there was a circulation of air. The seeds when ripe were on the small size but usually germinated well. I have never tried a sugar solution for my other method was so successful.—KENNETH D. SMITH, N.Y.

Is there more than one iris "Teucros"? The Barnes, Importers, list "Teucros" as a "pearly blue with large bronzy blotch," while the Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens describe "Teucros" as "one of the pinkest and prettiest of Oncogelias."

If you were to see my color description of "Teucros" you would think there were three. Since this is one of the more recent introductions of the oncogelia hybrids, it is unlikely that there are two different irises with this name. Dykes credits Sir Michael Foster as being the first to suspect that the ease of culture of the regelias might be added to the flower characteristics of the oncocyclus in the artificial crosses. Although the Dykes hybrids have disappeared Van Tubergen followed in his footsteps, and these Dutch originations are now fascinating American flower lovers with their strikingly different blooms. Asked to describe the color of a flower, two people will rarely present the same description. I can think of no flower that would lead to wider variation than the oncogelias. Mr. Moody of The Barnes and Mr. Austin of Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens are both good

friends of mine. I have studied my Kodachrome of *Teucros* before attempting to answer your question, and feel that I can agree neither with Mr. Moody as to the "bronzy" blotch, nor with Mr. Austin as to the "pinkness" of the flower. The ground color of the falls may be white, silver, grey, or light blue, but the shading and color given it by the dark veins is definitely towards a purple effect. The signal patch is deepest purple—matches Aconite Violet (No. 937) on Royal Horticultural Chart. Mr. Moody is right, in that the effect of the standards gives the whole bloom a pearly blue appearance, and Mr. Austin is correct in saying that it is one of the pinkest of the *oncogelias*—but I am sure he did not mean that it was actually pink—only that it had more red in it than most.

—PHILIP G. CORLISS, Arizona.

Since buds are formed in the fall months, could not a greater percentage of blooms be expected from spring divided rhizomes than from those moved in late summer.

Iris rhizomes moved in the spring may be expected to bloom if the roots are not allowed to dry out. I have moved clumps from place to place in the garden with no ill effects whatsoever. Also I have shipped rhizomes in late winter without letting the rootlets dry out, by wrapping the long fibrous roots in wet sphagnum moss and rolling the whole in wax paper, being careful to leave the rhizome exposed. These also bloomed normally. However, if rhizome is dug, dried, shipped in regular fashion, and if the wait before replanting amounts to several days, then bloom will be retarded. If the plant is sufficiently weakened, the stalk simply will not develop. Even if the plant does bloom it will usually be a short, weak, bloomstalk with only one or two terminal buds. The reason for this is that once the rootlets are dried they die, and the plant must use its energy in making a new root system rather than in making a bloomstalk.—G. DOUGLAS, Tenn.

What are the positions of the resting eyes in a rhizome? Can one propagate iris more rapidly by cutting a rhizome horizontally or vertically?

There are really two questions here, and to answer the second one first, a rhizome may be split vertically from end to end and then chopped up horizontally into sections about three quarters of an inch long and most, but not all, of the pieces will send out an offshoot if the separate pieces are buried in some rooting medium. The "resting eyes" range along each side of the rhizome. The more active ones are near the growing end, where there are more feeder roots.—G. DOUGLAS, Tenn.

Is it true that the two rhizomes next to the bloomstalk will be the ones to produce the bloom the following year?

Yes, as the bloomstalk dies and disintegrates the new rhizomes on either side begin to elongate. As they grow larger, they in turn will produce offshoots. The first blooming may be expected from the first two offshoots adjacent to the old bloomstalk for the reason that these two offshoots will be the largest and developed to a greater extent.—G. DOUGLAS, Tenn.

Is it true that there are no borers in Colorado and Utah? If so, what is the explanation?

In reply to the question asked by one of your correspondents, I can only say that to the best of my knowledge there are no iris borers either in Colorado or Utah. Nor have I heard of any in the neighboring states of Wyoming, Idaho or Nevada.

I am glad the matter has been brought up, however, just in case someone in the intermountain country has at some time encountered them and will give us a report. If such an infestation has occurred, it would be of some value to learn of its duration, whether there is still evidence of borers, and, if not, did they just naturally disappear or was some insecticide used?

It is possible that borers cannot survive our high altitudes and reasonably

dry atmosphere. It is just a notion of mine that they thrive in rather moist locations. Certainly in some of the thousands of iris shipments from infested areas, borers must have come in. Not necessarily from established dealers who are usually extremely careful with out-of-state shipments, but there are many plants either brought in or sent in by friends. As to just what has been the fate of such borers I am not able to say. My opinion is that up to the present time, at least, they have not survived.

Until about twenty years ago, the Japanese beetle was unknown here. Five years ago we had never heard of earwigs. Today we are fighting both these pests who have moved in on us and seem to like it here. It is highly probable that some day soon, the borer may be able to adjust himself to our climate and decide to settle down with us. But at the moment it would seem that he hasn't got what it takes.—M. D. NAYLOR, Utah.

From information I gather and from personal experience the iris borer has made very few appearances in Colorado. Among growers, large and small, many have never seen one. At a recent iris meeting I asked several iris fans of their experience and they all said about the same thing, they had never seen one.—LEMOINE BECHTOLD, Denver, Colo.

I, personally, have never seen one nor have I heard of anyone who has seen any around here.—JAY LINCOLN, Pueblo, Colo.

To answer your question about iris borers in this region: I'll have to paraphrase Will Rogers and say, "All I know about borers is what I read in the magazines." I have yet to see a live, honest-to-goodness iris borer. Evidently our dry climate is not conducive to their propagation. I have never heard of their occurrence anywhere in the Rocky Mt. Region. I sincerely hope that no dry-climate borer is ever originated to plague us in the future.—EVERETT LONG, Boulder, Colo.

If two rhizomes of the same "blue" iris were grown side by side, one in an

acid soil and one in an alkaline soil, would there be any difference in the color of their blooms?

There might be a difference, but it would be very difficult to prove that this one factor alone was responsible. Irises do vary in color as well as in performance from region to region or garden to garden, and sometimes even vary in different spots in the same garden. I believe, however, many other factors of soil and weather conditions are involved in this as well as the *ph* of the soil. Irises are supposed to grow best in a soil that is more or less neutral, and a mild degree of alkalinity or acidity does not make much difference, and good growth and color can be obtained in either case. If the soil for purposes of this experiment were made extremely alkaline or extremely acid the growth might be bad in both cases. The only way to answer this question with any finality would be by making a large number of controlled experiments in a number of gardens and even then the answer might not be certain because of the other factors involved.

—JESSE E. WILLS, Tenn.

In Memoriam **E. H. MATTINGLY**

Wichita, Kansas has lost a prominent citizen and a man whose keen interest in iris made him a leader in that center of iris interest. Mr. Mattingly was a judge of wide renown, a grower of many excellent varieties and a hybridizer. At the time of his death, Mr. Mattingly was the Editor in Chief of the publishing firm of McCornick-Matthews Publishing Co. To his wife, sons and daughter, his many iris friends wish to extend their deepest sympathy.

THE ONE HUNDRED FAVORITE IRIS FOR 1950

Compiled by Robert E. Allen (W. Va.)

<i>Variety</i>	<i>1949 Rank</i>	<i>Times Rated</i>	<i>Total Points</i>	<i>Balanced Rating</i>
1. Chivalry '44 DM	3	270	2612	91.60
2. Blue Rhythm '45 DM	5	272	2595	90.75
3. Helen McGregor '46 DM	4	264	2550	90.40
4. Blue Shimmer '42	11	272	2560	89.51
5. Master Charles '43	7	268	2535	89.24
6. Lady Mohr '44	10	270	2535	88.90
7. Berkeley Gold '42	13	268	2520	88.72
8. Snow Flurry '39	15	290	2615	88.66
9. Bryce Canyon '44	6	264	2493	88.40
10. Cascade Splendor '45	17	260	2468	88.15
11. Amandine '46	16	254	2430	87.71
12. New Snow '46	18	242	2373	87.55
13. Solid Mahogany '44	20	248	2376	86.70
14. Elmohr '42 DM	9	261	2416	86.17
15. Dreamcastle '43	29	242	2328	85.91
16. Lady Boscawen '46	21	240	2288	84.74
17. Distance '46	45	240	2264	83.85
18. Tiffanja '42	20	255	2312	83.41
19. Cherie '47	34	232	2210	83.10
20. Pink Cameo '46	19	241	2240	82.84
21. Azure Skies '43	14	266	2331	82.42
22. Garden Glory '43	32	233	2180	81.79
23. Goldbeater '44	46	243	2212	81.52
24. Blue Valley '47	28	230	2158	81.44
25. Mulberry Rose '41	25	244	2198	80.78
26. Extravaganza '46	41	230	2111	79.70
27. Ranger '43	30	237	2133	79.45
28. Moonlight Madonna '43	43	231	2103	79.22
29. Rocket '45	35	226	2075	78.90
30. Sylvia Murray '44	49	222	2058	78.85
31. Tobacco Road '42	40	233	2091	78.52
32. Gypsy '44	82	235	2098	78.45
33. Easter Bonnet '44	59	220	2035	78.22
34. Chantilly '45	27	221	2034	78.10
35. The Admiral '41	31	242	2105	77.70
36. Black Forest '45	42	210	1975	77.44
37. Argus Pheasant '48	67	202	1933	77.05
38. Cloth of Gold '45	61	205	1941	76.88
39. Chamois '44	36	236	2058	76.74
40. Casa Morena '43	33	240	2067	76.51
41. Lothario '42	58	225	2005	76.40
42. Spun Gold '40 DM	52	266	2160	76.35
43. Golden Fleece '40	48	247	2081	76.12
44. Desert Song '46	57	204	1910	75.78
45. Spanish Peaks '47	47	216	1947	75.49
46. Winter Carnival '41	50	236	2016	75.20
47. Bandmaster '44	53	218	1938	74.83
48. Violet Symphony '40	44	242	2021	74.60

<i>Variety</i>	<i>1949 Rank</i>	<i>Times Rated</i>	<i>Total Points</i>	<i>Balanced Rating</i>
49. Snow Carnival '42	60	215	1910	74.18
50. Radiation '48	131	196	1835	74.02
51. Three Cheers '45	63	198	1837	73.77
52. Cloud Castle '44	84	216	1896	73.50
53. Cordovan '46	70	194	1813	73.42
54. Lake George '45	83	210	1867	73.11
55. Arab Chief '44	65	200	1825	73.00
56. Sharkskin '42	71	222	1900	72.89
57. Mary Vernon '42	96	203	1826	72.61
58. Deep Velvet '39	56	199	1808	72.48
59. Captain Wells '41	74	192	1776	72.23
60. Priscilla '42	75	212	1845	72.10
61. Grand Canyon '41	37	204	1814	71.98
62. Katherine Fay '45	39	195	1777	71.81
63. Red Torch '47	142	180	1718	71.60
64. Golden Ruffles '45	139	186	1737	71.47
65. Minnie Colquitt '41	55	211	1823	71.35
66. Staten Island '48	141	177	1697	71.21
67. Rose Splendor '47	147	190	1742	71.10
68. Majenica '41	112	212	1818	71.02
69. Red Valor '39	72	232	1886	70.96
70. And Thou '42	140	188	1726	70.78
71. Fantasy '47	78	192	1737	70.63
72. Pink Reflection '42	113	205	1780	70.49
73. Remembrance '42	85	209	1791	70.37
74. Lord Dongan '40	86	206	1757	70.18
75. Mexico '43	93	201	1754	70.02
76. Suzette '45	102	180	1665	69.40
77. Indiana Night '42	105	202	1739	69.28
78. Lynn Langford '46	77	205	1747	69.21
79. Pierre Menard '48	104	182	1665	69.11
80. Tea Rose '44	110	194	1705	69.02
81. Jasmine '44	116	184	1666	68.88
82. The Capitol '44	101	181	1650	68.62
83. Snow Velvet '42	108	192	1685	68.30
84. Carousel '48	143	178	1625	67.98
85. Gudrun '38	109	250	1862	67.71
86. Misty Gold '43	111	183	1622	67.18
87. Esquire '46	136	177	1599	67.05
88. Melanie '41	119	185	1619	66.79
89. Frank Adams '37	106	256	1852	66.63
90. White Wedgewood '43	87	185	1605	66.21
91. Harriet Thoreau '44	92	188	1603	65.70
92. Daybreak '41	88	224	1713	65.39
93. Lilac Lane '47	146	172	1536	65.10
94. Pretty Quadroon '48	149	178	1545	64.65
95. Mellowglow '42	124	185	1556	64.18
96. Rainbow Room '46	134	187	1545	63.50
97. Golden Russet '46	115	194	1552	62.90
98. Redward '42	150	191	1525	62.13
99. Ming Yellow '38	98	242	1668	61.55
100. Vatican Purple '43	95	205	1525	60.40

THE IRIS HALL OF FAME

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Gloriole, A.M.
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**AN ALPHABETICAL TABLE
OF THE
SPECIES
OF THE
GENUS IRIS**

Compiled for The Iris Society by
A. C. HERRICK

Published by The Iris Society
1949

It has been felt that a new account of the species of the Genus *Iris* would be highly desirable, since the best book on the subject, for general purposes and for those who cannot possess his *The Genus Iris*, 1913, is undoubtedly still *A Handbook of Garden Irises*, by W. R. Dykes, 1924. This, however, is out of print and does not take into account a large number of species collected or named since it was written, while Col. C. H. Grey's *Iridaceae*, 1937, a most valuable work to which sufficient acknowledgment has not been given, is expensive, and, although many species unrecorded by Dykes are described therein, quite a number are yet left out of account. As a preliminary step in the desired direction, and particularly for the benefit of newer members, a complete alphabetical table of species is here printed, shewing, after the plant's name and section, approximations to the correct planting season, time of flowering (with predominant colour), and height of flowering stem. This table is based on one prepared by Mr. C. W. Christie-Miller and printed in the *Year Book* for 1946. It is now amplified by the inclusion of many further species and considerable additional detail, and I should like to thank Mr. Christie-Miller for permission to use his table and for generous encouragement in my undertaking; we must both admit our debt to the admirable table given by Dykes in his *Handbook*. A number of the species listed are fully described for the first time in the account of the Genus *Iris* by Fedchenko and Vvedensky in Komarov, *Flora U.R.S.S.*, 1935, a translation of which has been prepared by Mr. H. K. Airy Shaw. Grateful acknowledgement is due to Mr. Airy Shaw for the use made of his invaluable work.

It must be emphasised that no list of species can ever be considered conclusive, and the present state of our knowledge of wild irises seems particularly fluid. It is probable that there may yet be a number of species to be reported from Central Asia, and the specific boundaries of the *Oncocyclus* and *Juno* Sections, especially, are undoubtedly in need of a revision which, in the present state of the world, they are not likely to get. And can we even be at all happy about the current classifi-

cation of the American native irises—whether of California, the Middle West, or Louisiana? May I therefore say that I should be very grateful for any information or criticism which would help to make a subsequent edition of the Table more complete and correct?

The sections of the genus are: (A) Bulbous: (i) Reticulata; bulbs with netted coats. (ii) Xiphium; bulbs with smooth skins and without fleshy roots. (iii) Juno; bulbs with smooth skins and fleshy roots. (B) Rhizomatous: (iv) Nepalensis; rootstock composed of fleshy tubers. (v) Apogon; falls of the flower beardless, the stem irregularly branched. (vi) Pardanthopsis; falls beardless, stem branched regularly as in the genus Pardanthus. (vii) Dykesiana; falls beardless, rhizome composed of spiny annulate corm-like growths; (viii) Evansia; falls ridged or crested. (ix) Oncocyclus; falls diffusely bearded, stems single-flowered, seeds with cream-white aril. (x) Regelia; beard linear, stems two- or three-flowered, seeds with large cream-white aril, rhizome slender and stoloniferous. (xi) Pseudoregelia; beard linear, flowers appearing before full growth of leaves, seeds with small aril, rhizome compact. (xii) Pogoniris; all bearded species the seeds of which have no cream-white aril. The beard linear, and the flowers appear after the leaves are fully grown.

The Apogon section, which is by far the largest, is divided into at least fourteen groups comprising closely related species under the following sub-sections, named on regional grounds or from the most prominent member of the sub-section; Californian, Longipetala, Verna, Hexagona, Laevigata, Sibirica, Tripetala, Spuria, Foetidissima, Ungicularis, Tenuifolia, Ruthenica, Ensata, and Chinese.

An additional section (Gynandiris), consisting solely of the coriaceous "*I. sisyrinchium*" and its varieties, has recently been detached from the Genus *Iris*, the plant being now known as *Helixyra sisyrinchium*. Another iris-like plant, the attractive *Hermodactylus tuberosus*, is still sometimes listed by seedsmen as *I. tuberosa*, and the cut flowers are known to florists as "widow irises," while *Moraea pavonia* will still occasionally be found catalogued as *I. pavonia*.

A. C. H.

REVISED NOMENCLATURE

(Acknowledgments are due to Mr. W. T. Stearn,
Lindley Librarian, R.H.S., for these corrections).

1. *aurea* (Lindley 1847) should be known as *crocea* (Jacquemont ex R. C. Foster, 1936), the first name having been used as a synonym for *I. ochroleuca* by Link (1821).
2. *coerulea* (B. Fedtschenko, 1904) should be known as *albo-marginata* (R. C. Foster, 1936), the first name having been used for a var. of *I. pumila* by Spach (1846).
3. *foliosa* (Mackenzie & Bush, 1902) should be known as *brevicaulis* (Rafinesque, 1817), the latter name taking chronological priority.
4. *minuta* (Franchet & Savatier, 1879) should be known as *minuto-aurea* (Makino, 1828), the first name having been used for *Moraea ciliata* var. *minuta* by Linnaeus fil. in 1781.
5. *orientalis* (Thunberg, 1794) should be known as *sanguinea* (Donn, 1811), the first name having been used as a synonym for *I. ochroleuca* by Miller in 1768.

A.C.H.

ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF IRIS SPECIES.

- (1) * An asterisk preceding the specific name indicates that, so far as is known, the plant is not, or has not recently been, in cultivation in Great Britain or the U.S.A.
- (2) The number after the month in column 2 indicates the plant's suitable garden situation in accordance with the numerical key given at the conclusion of the table.

Name and Section	Approximate Planting Season and Garden Situation	Approximate Time of Flowering and Predominant Colour	Approximate Height of Stem
*acutiloba (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : white, veined brown-purple	6"
*Aitchisonii (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : purple or yellow	20"
alata (Juno)	Sept. (2 & 3 ; 13)	Jan. : blue, orange ridge	2"
Albertii (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : purple or yellow	24"
albicans (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : white. (Blue form named "Madonna")	18"
antilibanotica (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : black-purple and brown	9"
aphylla (Pogon)	May or Aug. (4)	Apl. & Sept. : purple	6-15"
arizonica (Apogon : Longipetala)	Sept. (5)	May : lilac	24"
*Aschersonii (Dykesiana)	Sept. (5 or 12)	May : greenish-yellow	6"
atrofusca (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : black-purple	9"
atropurpurea (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : black-purple	9"
auranitica (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : golden-bronze	12"
aurea (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	June : golden-yellow	36"
Bakeriana (Reticulata)	Sept. (2 ; 13)	Feb. : violet	1"
*baldschuanica (Juno)	Sept. (3 or 14)	Feb. : purple	2"
Barnumae (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : purple	6"
basaltica (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : white, veined black-purple	18"
Biggeri (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : white, veined red-purple	16"
Biliottii (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : purple	30"
Bismarckiana (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : cream, veined dark purple	12"
*Bloudowii (Regelia)	Sept. (4 or 10)	Apl. : yellow	6"
Boissieri (Xiphium)	Sept. (1)	June : red-purple	12"
bracteata (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : straw-yellow	6"
bucharica (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : white and yellow	15"
Bulleyana (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 & 7)	June : lilac-purple	18"
*Bungei (Apogon : Tenuifolia)	Sept. (5 ?)	May ? : lilac	6"
*carulea (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : blue	3"
*Camillae (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : violet or yellow	15"
*caucasica (Juno)	Sept. (3)	March : greenish-yellow	6"
cengialti (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	June : blue-purple	12"
chamaeiris (Pogon)	Apl. or Aug. (4 & 13)	Apl. : blue, purple, yellow or white (numerous garden forms)	3-9"
chrysographes (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 & 7)	June : violet, red- or black-purple	15"
Clarkei (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 & 7)	May : blue-purple	24"
*Collettii (Nepalensis)	Apl. (15)	June : lilac	2"
confusa (Evansia)	May (14)	Apl. : white or very pale lilac, orange ridge	30"
This is the species formerly known as <i>Wattii</i> ; the true <i>Wattii</i> is a different plant, but perhaps both are forms of the same species.			
cretensis (Apogon : Unguicularis)	Sept. (11)	Feb. : purple	2"
cristata (Evansia)	June (5 or 9 & 13)	May : lilac or white, orange ridge	1"
cypriana (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : red-purple	36"

ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF IRIS SPECIES—continued.

Name and Section	Approximate Planting Season and Garden Situation	Approximate Time of Flowering and Predominant Colour	Approximate Height of Stem
*daëncensis (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	June : blue-purple	30"
Danfordiae (Reticulata)	Sept. (2 & 13)	Feb. : yellow	1"
*darwasica (Regelia)	Oct. (4 or 5)	Apl. : greenish-yellow	12"
*decora (Nepalensis)	Apl. (15)	June : lilac	15"
This species was until recently known as <i>I. nepalensis</i> (Don, 1825). The use of this name was ante-dated by Wallich (1824) for a form of <i>I. germanica</i> .			
Delavayi : (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 & 7)	June : purple	45"
dichotoma (Pardanthopsis)	Sept. (6)	July : purple and white	24"
Douglasiana (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : blue-violet type, much colour variation	12"
*drepanophylla (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : yellow	8"
*Dykesii (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6)	July : violet	30"
*elegantissima (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : brownish - yellow, veined cinnamon	8"
ensata (Apogon : Ensata)	Sept. (5)	May : blue-violet	12"
Also known as <i>I. lactea</i> in the belief that the plant named as <i>ensata</i> by Thunberg is in reality that usually known as <i>Kaempferi</i> , in which case <i>Kaempferi</i> should be re-named <i>ensata</i> , and <i>ensata</i> would become <i>lactea</i> . This diagnosis is not accepted at Kew, however.			
*Ewbankiana (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : white, veined brown-purple	3"
*falcifolia (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : lilac-violet	24"
*Farreri (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	May : violet	8"
filifolia (Xiphium)	Sept. (1)	June : red-purple	15"
flavissima (syn. arenaria : Regelia)	Sept. (4 or 10 ; 13)	May : yellow	3"
foetidissima (Apogon : Foetidissima)	Sept. (5)	June : purple or yellow (scarlet seeds)	24"
foliosa (Apogon : Hexagona)	Aug. (6 & 7)	June : violet	6"
*Fomini (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : blue-violet	6"
Fontanesii (Xiphium)	Sept. (1 or 14)	May : blue	12"
*formosana (Evansia)	June (5 or 14)	May : pale blue, white ridge	12"
Forrestii (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6)	May : yellow	18"
*Fosteriana (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : yellow and purple	8"
fulva (syn. cuprea : Apogon : Hexagona)	Aug. (6 & 7)	June : terra-cotta	24"
*fumosa (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : smoky yellow	9"
Gatesii (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : greenish-white, veined purple	12"
germanica (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	Apl. : blue-purple	30"
The specific authenticity of this universally-known plant is open to question ; the name appears to cover a complex of local related forms.			
giganticærulea (Apogon : Hexagona)	Aug. (6 & 7)	June : blue or white	36"
*goniocarpa (Pseudoregelia)	Sept. (5)	May : purple	8"
Gormanii (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : cream or yellow	12"
gracilipes (Evansia)	June (5 or 9 & 13)	May : lilac or white, orange ridge	6"
Graeberiana (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : lavender-blue	12"
This species has not yet been published and may not be authentic. See <i>Iris Year Books</i> , 1948/49.			

ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF IRIS SPECIES—continued.

Name and Section	Approximate Planting Season and Garden Situation	Approximate Time of Flowering and Predominant Colour	Approximate Height of Stem
graminea (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5 & 13)	May & Sept. : purple	6"
Grant-Duffii (Dykesiana)	Sept. (5 or 12)	Apl. : yellow	6"
*Griffithii (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : purple	8"
*Grijsii (Apogon : Chinese)	Sept. (5)	May : white, veined purple	6"
*Grossheimii (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : brown-purple	6"
halophila (syn. <i>Güldenstadtiana</i> : Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	May : pale yellow or dull purple	15"
Hartwegii (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : pale yellow	8"
hauranensis (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : white, veined purple	14"
Haynei (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : black-purple	9"
Helenae (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : lilac and purple	10"
*Henryi (Apogon : Chinese)	Sept. (5)	Apl. : yellow	6"
hermona (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : cream, veined purple	12"
hexagona (Apogon : Hexagona)	Aug. (6 & 7 : winter-tender)	June : lilac	36"
*hissarica (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : yellow and violet	3"
histrion (Reticulata)	Sept. (2 & 13)	Jan. : blue	1"
histrionides (Reticulata)	Sept. (2 & 13)	Jan. : blue	1"
Hoogiana (Regelia)	Oct. (4 or 5)	May : blue-lavender	18"
Hookeri (Apogon : Tripetala)	Sept. (5)	June : blue-purple	18"
*Hookeriana (Pseudoregelia)	Sept. (5)	May : blue-purple	4"
humilis (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	May : purple	2"
*hyrcana (Reticulata)	Sept. (2)	March : sky-blue, with yellow stripe	4"
*iberica (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : lilac, veined purple	6"
imbricata (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : yellow or purple	16"
innominata (Apogon : Californian)	June (9 & 13)	May : golden - yellow type, much colour variation	8"
japonica (syn. <i>fimbriata</i> : Evansia)	May (5 but suffers from spring frosts)	Apl. : lilac, orange blotch	18"
jordana (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : pink, veined purple	16"
juncea (Xiphium)	Sept. (1)	June : yellow	12"
Junonia (Pogon)	Aug. (4 or 10)	June : blue-purple	24"
Kaempferi (Apogon : Laevigata)	Aug. (6 or 7)	June : red-purple or white (numerous horticultural forms)	24"
*karategina (Regelia)	Oct. (4 or 5)	May : violet	12"
kashmiriana (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : blue-purple or white	24"
kasruwana (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : cream, veined purple	15"
Kerneriana (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	May : yellow	10"
*Kobayashii (Apogon : Chinese)	Sept. (5?)	May : yellow, mottled purple	6"
*Kolpakowskiana (Reticulata)	Sept. (2)	Apl. : purple	1"
*kopetdagensis (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : greenish-yellow	12"
Korolkowi (Regelia)	Oct. (4 or 5)	May : cream, veined purple- brown (also purple self)	15"
kumaonensis (Pseudoregelia)	Sept. (5)	May : mottled purple	3"
*Kuschakewiczii (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : light violet	2"
(lactea : see under <i>ensata</i>)			
lacustris (Evansia)	June (5 or 9 & 13)	May : lilac or white, orange ridge	1"
laevigata (Apogon : Laevigata)	Sept. (6, 7 or 8)	June : indigo-blue or white	15"
lazica (Apogon : Unguicularis)	Sept. (11)	Feb. : dark purple	1½"
*leptophylla (Pseudoregelia)	Sept. (5)	May : blue	3"
*leptorhiza (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : greenish-violet	1"
*linifolia (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : yellowish-white	6"
*longipedicellata (Apogon : Spuria ?)	Sept. (5 ?)	July : pale yellow	16"
longipetala (Apogon : Longipetala)	Sept. (5)	June : white, veined violet	24"
*longiscapa (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : lilac-violet	20"
Lortetii (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : cream, veined red- violet	12"

ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF IRIS SPECIES—continued.

Name and Section	Approximate Planting Season and Garden Situation	Approximate Time of Flowering and Predominant Colour	Approximate Height of Stem
(Louisiana Irises : collective name given to a group of irises recently discovered in the S.F. United States, concerning which contro- versy still rages. They are now considered to comprise the Hexa- gonia Sub-Section (<i>foliosa</i> , <i>fulva</i> , <i>gicanticoerulea</i> , <i>hexagona</i>) and natural hybrids in great variety between these species.)	Aug. (6 & 7)	June : infinite variety of col- ouring and height of stem	
*Ludwigii (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	May : blue-violet	2"
lusitanica (Xiphium)	Sept. (1)	June : yellow	20"
*lycotis (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : purple veining on vari- able lighter ground	12"
macrosiphon (Apogon : Californian)	June (9 & 13)	May : purple or cream-yellow type, much colour variation	6"
*maculata (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : violet on lighter ground	6"
magnifica (Juno) This species is now considered at Kew to be that marketed and cultivated as <i>I. vicaria</i> , the latter not having in fact been collected.	Sept. (3)	Apl. : pale lilac and white	15"
mandschurica (Regelia)	Sept. (4 or 10)	May : greenish-yellow	6"
*maracandica (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : pale yellow	6"
*masia (Dykesiana)	Sept. (5 or 12)	May : purple	6"
*meda (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : yellow, veined purple	6"
*Medwedewii (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : white, veined black- purple	18"
*melanosticta (Dykesiana)	Sept. (5 or 12)	May : greenish-yellow	6"
mellita (Pogon)	May or Sept. (4 & 13)	Apl. : brown-purple	1"
mesopotamica (syn. Ricardi : Pogon)	Aug. (4 or 12)	June : red-lavender	45"
Milesii (Evansia)	Aug. (5 or 9)	June : purple, orange ridge	24"
minuta (Apogon : Chinese)	Sept. (5 & 13)	Apl. : yellow	4"
missouriensis (Apn. : Longipetala)	Sept. (5)	May : white, veined violet	18"
Monnierii (Apogon : Spuria) Possibly a natural hybrid.	Sept. (5)	June : yellow	48"
montana (Apn. : Longipetala)	Sept. (5)	May : lavender	18"
*musulmanica (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	June : pale yellow or pale blue	18"
*Narbuti (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : violet and yellow	4"
*narcissiflora (Pogon)	Aug. (4 ?)	July : yellow	12"
*narynensis (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : lilac	3"
nazarena (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : cream, veined purple	15"
(nepalensis : see <i>decora</i>)			
*Nicolai (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : reddish-violet	1"
nigricans (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : white, veined brown- purple	12"
notha (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	June : dark blue	18"
ochroleuca (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	June : white, yellow blotch	48"
orchioides (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : yellow	12"
orientalis (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 or 7)	May : red-purple, or white	30"
*palaestina (Juno)	Sept. (2)	Dec. : greenish - blue or yellow	1"
pallida (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : lavender	36"
paradoxa (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : crimson - black and white, veined purple	6"
*parvula (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : greenish-yellow	4"
persica (Juno)	Sept. (3 or 14)	Feb. : greenish-blue type, much colour variation	1"
petrana (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : dark lilac, veined purple	12"

ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF IRIS SPECIES—continued.

Name and Section	Approximate Planting Season and Garden Situation	Approximate Time of Flowering and Predominant Colour	Approximate Height of Stem
*phragmitetorum (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 ?)	May : deep blue	18"
*pinetorum (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	June : pale yellow	12"
*Polakii (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : cream, veined brown- purple	6"
*polysticta (Apogon : Chinese)	Sept. (6 ?)	July : pale violet-blue	18"
*Popovii (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : blue-violet	4"
*Potaninii (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : yellow or purple	1"
prismatica (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 or 7)	June : violet	18"
*proantha (Apogon : Chinese)	Sept. (6 ?)	March : violet and yellow	5"
pseudacorus (Apogon : Laevigata)	Sept. (6, 7 or 8)	June : yellow	30"
*pseudocaucasica (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : blue	8"
*pseudopumila (Pogon)	May or Aug. (4)	Apl. : blue, purple, yellow or white	6"
*pseudo-Rossii (Evansia)	May (5 ?)	Apl. : bluish-white or bluish- purple	6"
pumila (Pogon)	May or Aug. (4 or 13)	Apl. : purple, blue or yellow	1"
Purdyi (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : pale yellow	6"
*Regelii (Apogon : Tenuifolia)	Sept. (5 or 11)	Apl. : lilac-blue	2"
Reichenbachii (Pogon)	May or Aug. (4 & 13)	Apl. : brown-purple or yellow	8"
reticulata (Reticulata)	Sept. (2 & 13)	Feb. : reddish or bluish-violet	1"
Rosenbachiana (Juno)	Sept. (3 or 14)	Feb. : crimson-purple	2"
*Rossii (Apogon : Chinese)	Sept. (5)	May : lilac	4"
ruthenica (Apogon : Ruthenica)	June (5 & 13)	May : violet	4"
samariae (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : cream, veined red- violet	18"
*sari (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : yellow, reddish-veined	6"
*scariosa (Pogon)	Sept. (4 or 10)	May : red-purple	6"
*Schelkownikowii (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	Apl. : brown, veined purple- violet	12"
*serotina (Xiphium)	Sept. (3)	July : blue-violet	18"
setosa (Apogon : Tripetala)	Sept. (5)	June : blue-purple	12"
sibirica (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 or 7)	June : blue-purple, or white (many garden varieties)	36"
*sikkimensis (Pseudoregelia)	Sept. (5)	May : mottled purple and lilac	6"
sindjarensis (Juno)	Sept. (3)	March : pale blue	9"
Sintenisii (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	May : purple	10"
sofarana (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : white, veined purple	15"
*sogdiana (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	June : blue	36"
*songarica (Apogon : Tenuifolia)	Sept. (5)	May : blue-purple	15"
*speculatrix (Evansia)	May (14)	Apl. : violet, orange crest	12"
spuria (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	June : blue-purple	24"
*Stocksii (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : lilac or purple	12"
stolonifera (Regelia)	Oct. (4 or 5)	May : blue-purple, veined bronze	15"
subbiflora (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	Apl. : blue-purple	12"
*subdecolorata (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : pale greenish-blue	1"
susiana (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : grey, veined purple- black	15"
*tadshikorum (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : violet	2"
Taitii (Xiphium)	Sept. (1 or 14)	June : grey-blue	18"
tectorum (Evansia)	July (5 or 9)	May : lilac or white	15"
tenax (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : red-violet (many colour forms)	12"
*tenuifolia (Apogon : Tenuifolia)	Sept. (5 or 11)	Apl. : lilac-blue	2"
*tenuis (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : white, veined purple	12"
*tenuissima (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : white, veined brown- yellow	12"

ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF IRIS SPECIES—continued.

Name and Section	Approximate Planting Season and Garden Situation	Approximate Time of Flowering and Predominant Colour	Approximate Height of Stem
Thompsonii (Apogon : Californian)	June (9)	May : lilac	12"
*tianschanica (Apogon : Tenuifolia)	Sept. (5 or 11)	Apl. : lilac-blue	2"
*tigridia (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	Apl. : blue-purple or yellow	4"
*Timofejewii (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	Apl. : yellow and violet	6"
tingitana (Xiphium)	Sept. (1 or 14)	Apl. : blue	24"
*tripetala (Apogon : Tripetala)	Sept. (5 or 14)	June : blue-purple	12"
trojana (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : blue-purple	36"
*Tubergeniana (Juno)	Sept. (3)	March : yellow	4"
unguicularis (syn. stylosa : Apogon : Unguicularis)	Sept. (11)	Nov.-March : lilac	1"
*uniflora (Apogon : Ruthenica)	Sept. (5)	May : violet	6"
*urmiensis (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : yellow	9"
Urumovii (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	May : purple	8"
variegata (Pogon)	Aug. (4)	May : yellow, veined brown	18"
Vartani (Reticulata)	Dec. (2 or 14 & 13)	Sept. : slaty-mauve or white	1"
*ventricosa (Apogon : Tenuifolia)	Sept. (5 ?)	June : violet	12"
verna (Apogon : Verna)	June (9 & 13)	Apl. : lilac, yellow patch	2"
versicolor (Apogon : Laevigata)	Sept. (5, 6, 7 & 8)	June : blue- or red-purple	24"
*vicaria (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : pale violet	12"
See also under <i>magnifica</i>			
violacea (Apogon : Spuria)	Sept. (5)	June : blue	30"
virginica (Apogon : Laevigata)	Sept. (5, 6, 7 & 8)	June : blue-purple	24"
*Vvedenskyi (Juno)	Sept. (3)	Apl. : pale yellow	2"
*warleyensis (Juno)	Sept. (3)	March : violet	18"
Wattii (Evansia)	May (14)	Apl. : lilac, orange ridge	36"
See also under <i>confusa</i>			
Westii (Oncocyclus)	Oct. (12)	May : white, veined purple	8"
Willmottiana (Juno)	Sept. (3)	March : blue or purple	10"
Wilsonii (Apogon : Sibirica)	Sept. (6 or 7)	June : pale yellow	24"
*Winkleri (Reticulata)	Sept. (2)	Apl. : purple	1"
*Winogradowii (Reticulata)	Sept. (2)	March : pale yellow	2"
xiphioides (Xiphium)	Sept. (1)	June : blue-purple (many gar- den varieties, known as "English Irises")	18"
xiphium (Xiphium)	Sept. (1)	June : Blue, purple, yellow or white (many garden varie- ties, known as "Spanish" or "Dutch Irises")	24"

NOTES : (i) The species *Aschersonii*, *Grant-Duffii*, *masia*, and *melanosticta*, listed above as comprising the Dykesiana Section, will be found, in Dykes's writings, placed as a separate group of the Apogon Section.

(ii) The species *Bloudowii*, *flavissima* (syn. *arenaria*), and *mandschurica* have been transferred from the Pogon to the Regelia Section by reason of their chromosome-count and their aril-bearing seeds.

APPENDIX :

LIST OF FREQUENTLY-USED VARIETAL OR SYNONYMOUS NAMES

Synonymous or varietal names used for iris species are innumerable, and no attempt at completeness is made in the following list, which is intended only to cover names which are likely to be met with by the amateur, and may thus help to solve the more elementary of his puzzles.

aintabensis = var. of *I. histrio* ; *albopurpurea* = var. of *I. laevigata* ; *amabilis* = var. of *I. Douglasiana* ; *arenaria* = var. or perhaps syn. of *I. flavissima* ; *attica* = var. of *I. pumila* ; *azurea* = var. of *I. pumila* ; *balkana* = var. of *I. Reichenbachii* ; *Bastardi* = var. of *I. pseudacorus* ; *Beecheyana* = var. or syn. of *I. Douglasiana* ; *benacensis* = var. of *I. aphylla* ; *biflora* = syn. of *I. aphylla* ; *bosiana* = natural hybrid of *I. pallida* ; *bosniaca* = var. of *I. Reichenbachii* ; *brevipes* = var. of *I. foliosa* ; *Carthaginiæ* = syn. of *I. violacea* ; *Choschab* = var. of *I. paradoxa* ; *chrysophylla* = var. of *I. macrosiphon* ; *cretica* = var. of *I. chamaeiris* ; *cuprea* = syn. of *I. fulva* ; *cyanea* = var. of *I. chamaeiris* ; *desertorum* = var. of *I. halophila* ; *Fieberi* = syn. of *I. aphylla* ; *fimbriata* = syn. of *I. japonica* ; *flavescens* = var. or natural hybrid of *I. pallida* ; *florentina* = var. of *I. germanica* (so-called) ; *gigantea* = syn. of *I. ochroleuca* ; *gracilis* = var. of *I. aphylla* ; *Güldenstadtiana* = syn. of *I. halophila* ; *Heylandiana* = var. of *I. iberica* ; *hungarica* = var. of *I. aphylla* ; *hyacinthina* = var. of *I. ensata* ; *kermesina* = var. of *I. versicolor* ; *Kimballiæ* = a Louisiana iris ; *Kochii* = var. of *I. germanica* (so-called) ; *Lamancei* = syn. of *I. foliosa* ; *Leichtlinii* = var. of *I. stolonifera* ; *Loppio* = var. of *I. cengialti* ; *lupina* = var. of *I. sari* ; *lurida* = reddish-brown-purple Pogon hybrid of unknown parentage ; *lutescens* = var. of *I. chamaeiris* ; *macrantha* = var. of *I. germanica* (so-called) ; *Madonna* = blue counterpart of *I. albicans* ; *Manissadjiani* = var. of *I. sari* ; *Mariæ* = syn. of *I. Helenæ* ; *maritima* = var. of *I. spuria* ; *mongolica* = var. of *I. sibirica* ; *neglecta* = var. of *I. variegata* ; *Nertschinskia* = var. of *I. orientalis* ; *nudicaulis* = syn. of *I. aphylla* ; *numidica* = var. of *I. juncea* ; *olbiensis* = var. of *I. chamaeiris* ; *Ricardi* = syn. of *I. mesopotamica* ; *rubro-marginata* = var. of *I. mellita* ; *sambucina* = natural hybrid, *I. pallida* × *I. variegata* ; *savannarum* = a Louisiana iris ; *Shrevei* = var. of *I. versicolor* ; *Siebeana* = var. of *I. persica* ; *sophenensis* = var. of *I. histrioides* ; *speciosa* = var. of *I. unguicularis* ; *squalens* = natural hybrid, *I. pallida* × *I. variegata* ; *Statellæ* = var. of *I. pseudo-pumila* ; *stenophylla* = var. of *I. persica* ; *stylosa* = syn. of *I. unguicularis* ; *sulphurea* = syn. of *I. imbricata* ; *Sumwarowii* = var. of *I. darnasica* ; *Talischii* var. of *I. imbricata* ; *tauri* = var. of *I. persica* ; *terglovensis* or *triglavensis* = natural hybrid of *I. pallida* ; *tolmeiana* = syn. of *I. missouriensis* ; *tricuspis* = probably var. of *I. setosa* ; *vinicolor* = a Louisiana iris ; *virescens* = var. of *I. chamaeiris* ; *Watsoniana* = syn. of *I. Douglasiana*.

No account is taken above of artificially-produced inter-specific hybrids. It may also be mentioned that a whole series of irises have been introduced by Messrs. Kingdon Ward and Sherriff, which still await classification.

KEY TO GARDEN SITUATION INDICATED

NUMERICALLY IN COLUMN 2:—

1. Cultivation as for all hardy bulbous plants.
2. Cultivation as for all hardy bulbous plants, but protection advisable in late winter growth-season.
3. Cultivation as for all hardy bulbous plants, but dry off under cloche in summer months.
4. As for tall bearded irises.
5. Normal herbaceous border.
6. Normal herbaceous border, but must not be allowed to dry out in summer.
7. Waterside plant.
8. Will grow actually in water.
9. Leaf-mould and light shade.
10. Sand.
11. Poor stony soil; winter sunshine.
12. Special Oncocyclis conditions; grow in bed raised 18 to 24 inches with excellent drainage; loam and lime rubble; full sunshine; dry off under cloche from mid-July to January.
13. Suitable for rock-garden.
14. Cool-house cultivation only.
15. Lift in October and store in dry sand until April.

HILL-SON

Lafontaine, Kansas

PEONIES—

The best and most vigorous growers. Brilliant Hybrids our specialty.

HEMEROCALLIS—

We can now announce new ever-bloomers that bloom every day from mid-June until frost.

IN IRIS—

- We have most all the 100 Best
- Many top new dwarfs
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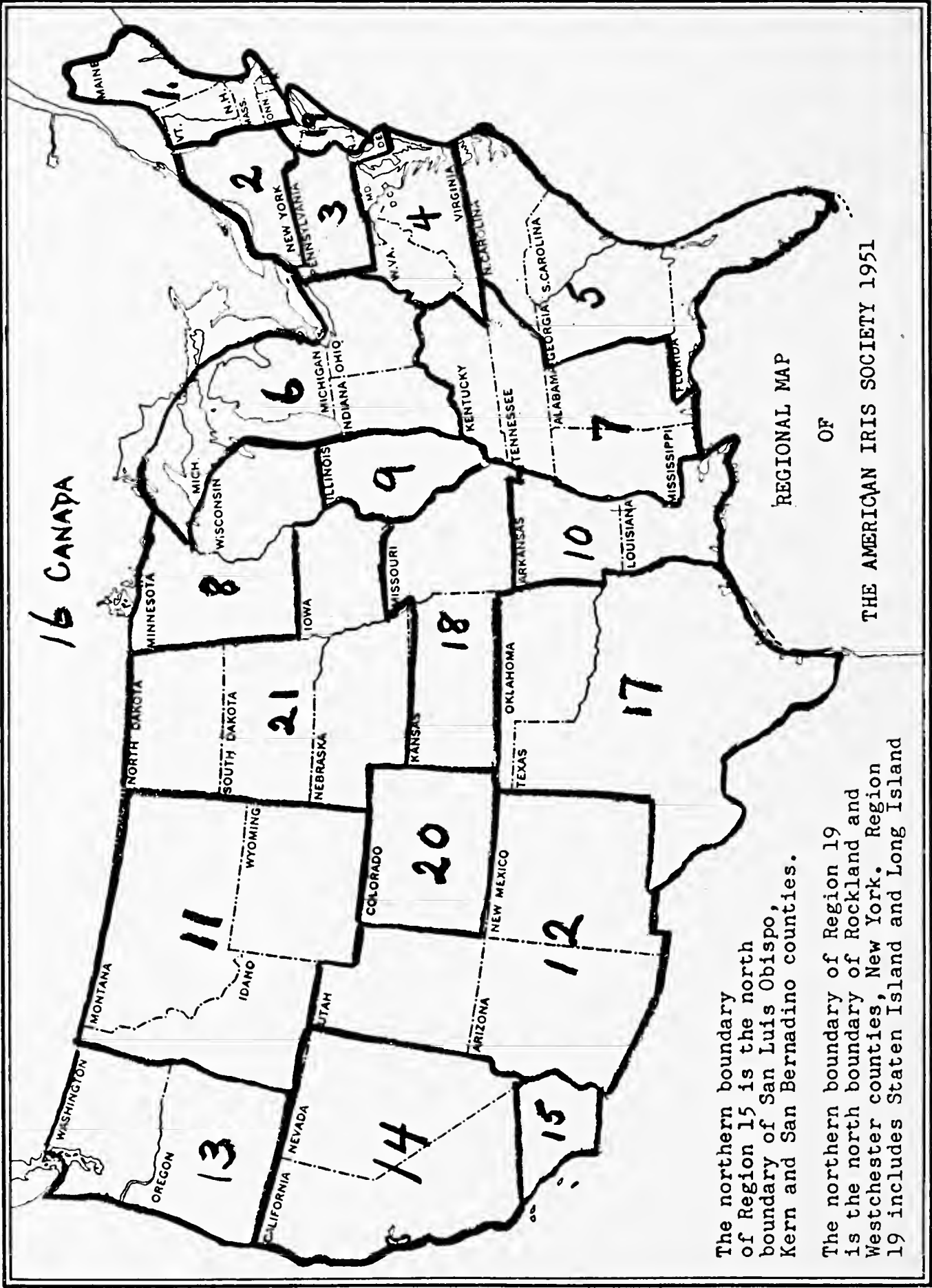
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NEW YORK
BOTANICAL GARDEN

of the

AMERICAN
IRIS SOCIETY

JULY - 1951

NUMBER 122

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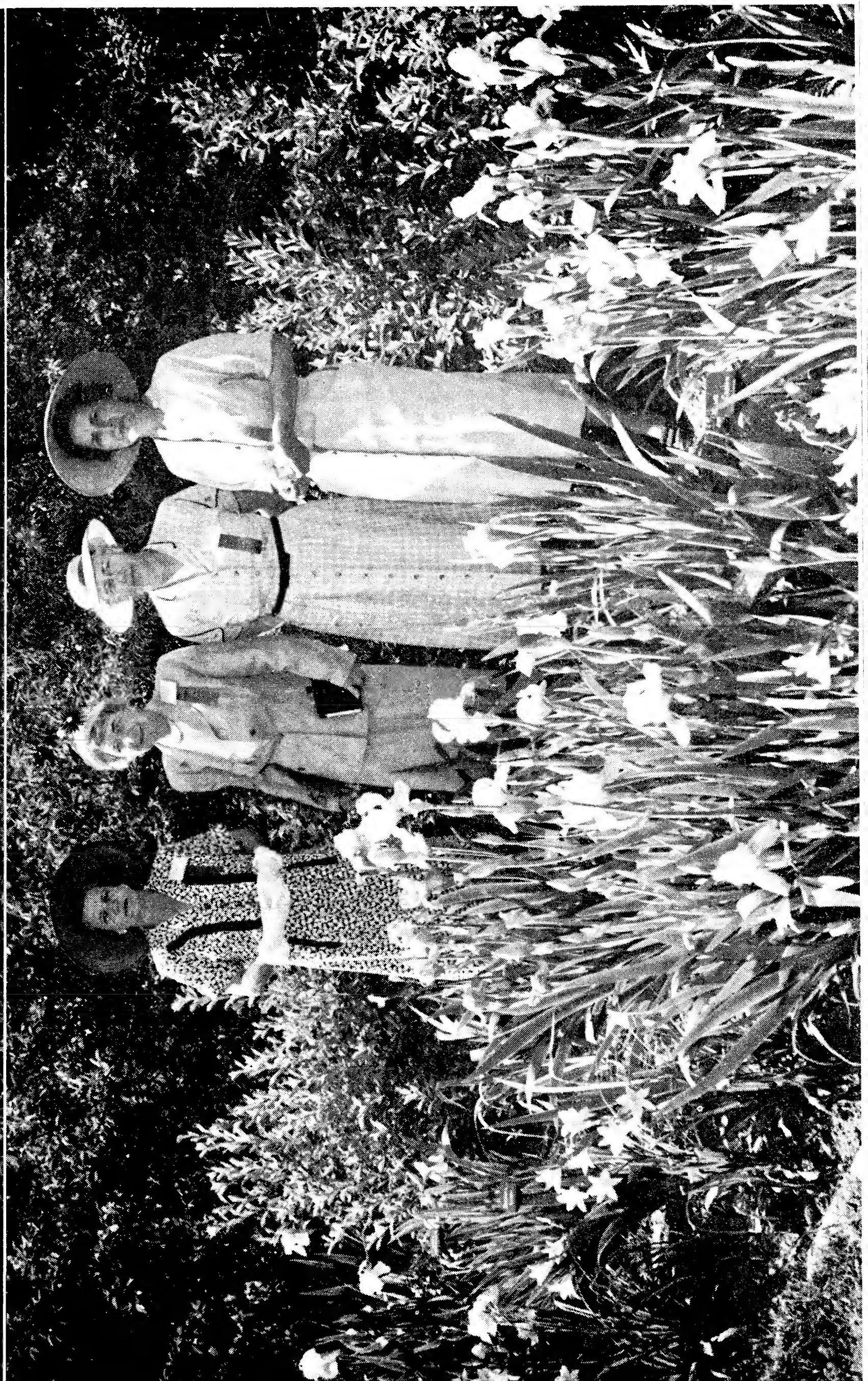
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FOREWORD

AIS member, H. O. Kelley, of Kimmswick, Missouri, is a man who wonders why. Having been associated with the membership drive of 1950 and having read in the Bulletin the printed lists of new names, Mr. Kelley wondered why we had to have so many new members. He wondered why, since so many people joined the Society each year, it was necessary to go right out the next year and secure more new members. Next, Mr. Kelley wondered why it was that after a person had joined the Society there was not enough interest engendered by the Society's activities to hold that member for more than one or two years. Since Mr. Kelley is also a man of action besides being a person of inquisitiveness he decided to do something about it.

Immediately following this editorial is a copy of a letter Mr. Kelley wrote to eight new members who had just joined the Society a few months previous to the writing of his letter. Along with Mr. Kelley's letter are excerpts from the seven letters that he received in reply. These excerpts are enough to show the thoughts and opinions of the several writers. They are highly illuminating. To your editor they indicate two serious faults in the conduct of our Society's functions. The first shortcoming is one that can be attributed both to the management of the Society and to the members of the Society. This shortcoming is that even though we have a great many things that would be of benefit to the new member they are not made available to the new member due to inadequate presentation. Undoubtedly there are many things that we could do for the average gardener that we do not do and as time goes on we can remedy our defects. But having many things to offer now, we should not "hide our candle under a bushel."

The second shortcoming, I think, must be charged to the new member himself. No matter what kind of organization you belong to you will only get out of that organization benefits in proportion to the interest and efforts you put into it. The simplest way to find out something is to ask about it. The Society is full of people that can give answers to most questions. The country as a whole is broken up into 21 regions and in each region there is a Regional Vice-President. This person is ready and willing to supply information to new members, but little can be done if the new member simply sends in his \$3.50 and goes no further.

It is quite evident from the seven letters that Mr. Kelley received

Frontispiece: Notables pause in Alex Smith garden, Shreveport 1951. (Left to right) Sally Smith, winner of the President's Cup; Mrs. Ralph Nelson, RVP Region 11; Miss Archie MacLean, RVP Region 15 and Minnie Colquitt, Convention General Chairman.

that many of our new members wish to take an active part in the Society but simply do not know how to do so. In an effort to remedy this situation we are listing below eight of the principal items and services that the Society has to offer:

1. *Books and Pamphlets of Specialized Information.* Specifically this refers to (a) the Check List and Supplement which lists some 23,000 names comprising a complete record of iris varieties from the discovery of the species until 1942. The Check List and the Supplement are sold to the members as a single unit for a price of \$3.00. They are available from the Secretary's office. Also in the process of being published is the new Check List which will encompass all of the registrations from 1939 to 1949. This will include those listed in the 1942 Supplement. This booklet will not be ready until late fall of 1951. It will be available also from the Secretary's office.

(b) The Society has in its possession a file of old Bulletins comprising many hundred copies of the various issues. These are available to the members at 50c per copy. Unfortunately there is no general index to these previous issues of the Bulletin.

2. *A System of Registration of Varietal Names.* A large percentage of the people who grow iris like to cross them and raise seedlings. Frequently in the seedlings a new variety will pop up that will be worthy of naming. The Society maintains an office of registration for this purpose. The procedure of registration is simple. The applicant writes to the Secretary's office for an application form. The request is accompanied by a fee of one dollar which is used to defray the expenses of record keeping and publication. Complete registration instructions are printed on the registration forms. After the name has been given approval the applicant is notified and publication of all registrations is made in the Bulletin once each year. This system of registration is world wide and it assures a person desiring a name that no other person will infringe upon his or her right to that name once it has been approved by the Society.

3. *Organized Garden Visits.* Reference above has been made to the 21 regions into which the 48 states have been divided. In each of these regions there is a Regional Vice-President and that person has the region organized into various departments. To mention a few there are publicity, membership, garden treks, etc. One of the most important functions of the Society is the promotion of garden visits to all available gardens. All members in or out of the region are invited to participate in these tours. In addition to the regional tours there is also the Annual Meeting of the Society which is held in a center of iris interest. All members of the Society are invited to

attend this meeting. Actually, of course, it would be impossible to stage a meeting if all of the members did come. However, the invitation is there and usually from three to four hundred of the real iris bugs go to these annual meetings.

4. *National Directory of Gardens Open to the Public.* Once in every three years the Society publishes a complete membership list. Certain members who have their gardens open for public visiting notify the Society and a special mark is made in the membership list indicating that the garden in question is open to the public. In addition to this master list which is published by the Bulletin each individual Regional Vice-President has a list of the gardens open in their particular region. This list is available upon inquiry from the Regional Vice-President.

5. *Kodachrome Slide Collections for Use by Iris Groups and Flower Societies of All Types.* At the present time the Society is maintaining five complete sets of kodachrome slides. Each set has 100 slides and these kodachrome collections offer a convenient way to stage an iris program. The sets are available from the Slides Chairman, 444 Chestnut Street, Nashville 10, Tennessee. The fee is \$5.00 per showing.

6. *Speakers Conveniently Located for Local and State Meetings.* In every region there live many people who are experts on iris matters. Their names can usually be found in the list of accredited judges of the Society. This list of accredited judges is published in the Bulletin and is also available from the Regional Vice-President of the region involved. Should your garden club or iris society need a speaker contact your Regional Vice-President.

7. *The Publication, "The Iris—An Ideal Hardy Perennial."* This book was published by the Society in 1947. The first issue of 5,000 copies was sold out by 1949, and the second edition was printed at that time. Unfortunately, the second edition is about to be sold out but there are still several hundred copies available to new members joining the Society. A word or two about this book is in order. It was not written by any one person. It is a compilation of information and knowledge concerning irises and kindred subjects compiled from 85 different sources. It is available in permanent binding for \$2.50 from the office of the Secretary and in paper binding for \$1.50.

8. *The Quarterly Bulletin.* The Society publishes a quarterly which averages from 96 pages to 128 pages per issue. The Bulletin is the real direct contact between the Society and the member. In the Society there are many different classes of people. Some are collectors, others

are breeders, still others are color specialists, many are garden clubbers, others are interested in flower arrangement. There is the dwarf iris group, the Siberian iris group, the Louisiana iris group, and so on. Unfortunately, the Bulletin cannot print in its pages exactly what each of these groups might want. It has to satisfy them all. The amount of material that is printed for the benefit of any one individual group is regulated by two things. First, the availability of the material and the readiness upon the part of the members of the Society to write about that particular subject. Second, by the number of requests that we get concerning any individual subject that would interest a special group.

The largest group within the Society is THE AVERAGE GARDENER; but unfortunately Mr. Average Gardener is the most inarticulate. Sensing that this might be the case, the editors in the past few years have tried to include in each issue of the Bulletin as many articles as possible which would interest the home gardener who uses iris as a perennial flower for its color effect and adaptability in the garden.

An analysis of the above eight points that the Society has to offer reveals that the first two, namely the Check List and the Registration System are indeed for the specialist. The average gardener is interested in neither. The third however—that of organized garden visits—is certainly one that anyone would be interested in. A person traveling over the country in the springtime will find the national directory of gardens open to the public of great benefit. This certainly is an item for the average gardener. The fifth point concerning kodachrome slides would be of interest to the average gardener if that person is socially minded. Many people are joiners; many people are not. If you belong to a garden club or an iris group don't miss these slides. They will certainly give you a good evening's entertainment. And along with this, of course, is item number six, that of a speaker for a garden program.

Item number seven was written specifically for the iris enthusiast of all levels. The book is presented from the layman's standpoint and by far the bulk of the information in it is for the back yard gardener. Item number eight has been discussed above. It can never be solely for the average gardener but The Bulletin will always contain a wealth of pertinent information on irises, their culture and uses. This then resolves us to the realization that of the eight functions listed and discussed above, six are directly for Mr. Average Member. He has only to seek in order to find.—THE EDITOR.

ONE MAN COMMITTEE

H. O. KELLEY, (Mo.)

In November, 1950, I had some correspondence with the Secretary concerning the relative percentage of new members who, after joining the Society, renewed their membership the second year. A perusal of the membership lists and the Secretary's reports indicated that entirely too many new members of the Society failed to remain in the society more than one year.

In an effort to determine the underlying causes I wrote a personal letter to eight new members. This letter, and six of the replies I received are listed in order.

The Kelley Letter

Dear A. I. S. Member:

The American Iris Society Bulletin Number 119 for October, 1950, lists your name as a new member of the Society.

I have appointed myself as a one man committee to try and find out the reaction of new members toward the Society. My interest is not commercial and I have, so to speak, no axe to grind. I am just one of those persons bit by the iris bug a few years ago who would like to see everyone maintain their interest in growing iris.

I would like to have your thoughts in regard to becoming a member of the Society and I would very much appreciate your honest answer to the following questions:

1. In the A. I. S. Bulletins which you have received so far, have you found any items which are of interest to you?
2. If not, what sort of items would have interested you?
3. Has being a member of the Society been a matter of sufficient interest for you to pay the \$3.50 annual dues to maintain your membership?

Your reply will be considered confidential, and I hope you will send an answer in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

The reason I am asking for this information is because I am considering making some suggestions to the Society, and your reply will go a long way toward guiding me in this.

Very truly,

H. O. Kelley,
R. R. No. 1,
Kimmswick, Missouri

Answer No. 1

In regard to your letter of January 5, my answer to your questions would be to the first one—"yes." I haven't had a great deal of time to read the Bulletins as I would have liked to, but what little I have read has been interesting. Especially the last one. But in regard to the third question, the Bulletins are the only thing I get for the \$3.50, which seems quite steep.

I joined the Society because I am a lover of flowers. The iris to my notion is the most beautiful. I'm sure the members who have the time to spend in their gardens to the extent of breeding and producing new irises get more from the Bulletins and Society than I do, but I think I enjoy just knowing that I'm a part of such a world-wide organization.

Answer No. 2

Your kind inquiry dated November 10, 1950, regarding my reaction as a new member of the Iris Society was received with pleasure inasmuch as it was my first and only indication other than the Bulletin that any one in the whole world knew I had joined.

My chief criticism of the iris Bulletins which I have thus far received is that they are not written for down-to-earth medium-priced iris growers who, as you admitted you were, are growers for pleasure only. To me the Bulletins seem more for people interested chiefly in hybridizing and promoting new varieties. Frankly I was very disappointed in my first Bulletin. I expected some color photographs, some sensible instructions regarding planting and care, and of course some discussions of what's new and where it was obtainable. Also some discussion of Iris Society meetings, but I certainly was not prepared for the Bulletin I received with so much discussion of iris trips and special mention of the big growers' gardens, and so much technical wording. Maybe I need more education, certainly I get more kick and bang out of a Cooley's Catalog that I get every year for twenty-five cents.

I do not expect to continue my membership when my year's subscription is up. I can put \$3.50 to better use if it's only to purchase another iris root that I do not have.

I have quite a collection, the fancy growers and folks that write the Bulletin would definitely call it a hodge-podge, since I have no background planting, only a 30x40 garden planted as I bought them with some care as to color combination, but not enough care perhaps, and I'm not disturbed at all when two bloom side by side that would definitely look better alone.

If you think you were bitten by the iris bug, you see I was swallowed. When a person in my financial standing spends \$3.00 a root for iris when the house needs painting so very badly it's an indication that I'm off my balance wheel, but isn't that what makes life fun?

Answer No. 3

I do not plan to renew my membership for 1951.

Answer No. 4

Being a member of the Iris Society for a year has taught me a valuable lesson: It is out of my class! I enjoyed a peek into the life of irisarians but I fear it is not for me. When the bug really bit me I began weeding out old and unnamed varieties and buying new until I have now a hundred named varieties but I can see no end to it. I'm getting older all the time and it is getting harder to care for them. I'm getting no better off financially and better varieties cost more all the time, so I think I will have to ease out of it. I haven't room for any more anyway. So many flowers are so like others that it takes an expert to tell them apart.

I think I will leave it all to the breeders and just sit back and admire you, I can't keep up.

If I had nothing else to do, I might feel different, but this life is such a rush.

Answer No. 5

I like the Bulletin very much, but have not had time to read all of it yet. I especially liked the articles about the iris grown in various sections of the country—but would appreciate a map locating the various regions. "Growing Iris in South Africa" was especially interesting. I like articles about new varieties and how they perform in various sections. It was very gratifying to learn that some of the new iris I bought this year have received various awards. Blue Rhythm is one of my new ones.

I believe the Bulletin will be especially interesting to me because there are so few people around here who really appreciate iris, or who know anything about varieties or what constitutes a fine iris, etc., etc. The more one learns, the more one finds there is still to learn. Yet people come to see my iris, and for example, will ask what Blue Shimmer is, and then say, "Oh, I have that, but didn't know its name." What they have is an extremely old variety, and the flower is small. There is, of course, no comparison. I believe I'll have much pleasure in being a member of the society and reading the Bulletins. Maybe I can get someone in our newly organized garden club interested in iris enough to get something worth while started.

Answer No. 6

In answer to your letter of November 10, Yes I have recently become a member of the AIS.

1. I have found very much of interest in the two Bulletins I received.

The articles on hybridizing and dwarf iris have been of the

greatest interest. Also the garden and plant combinations listed. I seemed to tour with the convention as I read of all the nice meetings, and pilgrimages.

2. I am quite interested in more articles on the use of iris in flower arrangements and various combinations of same.
3. Yes I am quite satisfied to pay \$3.50 per year for dues. I know no other organization like this that has another club within itself like the Dwarf Iris Society which is included with the A. I. S. I believe all the national Societies' dues are between \$3.00 and \$3.50.

Mr. Kelley's Conclusions

From the above my personal reaction is that it is human nature for a person to respond to a little extra attention and to feel that they are being recognized as an individual. I do not know what the policy of the Society is toward new members, but if it is not already being done, I have two suggestions I would like to make:

- 1st.—That a letter of welcome with the signature of the President be sent to each new member when the membership card is mailed to them.
- 2nd.—That there be enclosed with each of the first 4 Bulletins sent to new members, a special folder on subjects of special interest to new members, such as "How to select good Iris," "How to plant, care for, fertilize and divide Iris," "A list of Gardens open at blooming time," suggestions for grouping Iris, etc., in other words, give them information heretofore published in the Bulletins, but which of course is not available to them.

These items could be printed in quantity and used year after year and since they would be enclosed with other items on which postage has to be paid, there would be no extra cost for postage.

NEW JUDGES APPOINTED

The following Accredited Judges have been appointed since the general list was published in the April Bulletin:

- Region 1. Virgil V. Johnson, R. F. D. No. 1, Meredith, New Hampshire
Region 4. Mrs. M. A. Buchanan, 1301 Fort Myer Dr., Arlington, Virginia
Region 6. Thomas R. Manley, East Blvd. at Euclid Ave., Cleveland 6, Ohio
Region 17. Mrs. P. A. Childs, Rt. No. 1, Temple, Texas
Mrs. H. B. Darcy, Rockmore Dr., Austin, Texas
Mrs. Paul Updegraff, 324 Emelyn, Norman, Oklahoma
Mrs. W. B. Wardlow, 1312 Elton Lane, Austir, Texas

AIS Holds Annual Convention

In years past it has been the custom for the Society to hold its annual meeting in one of the various centers of tall bearded culture, of which there are many scattered over these United States and Canada. In 1951, however, there was a complete departure from the traditional course. The Society paid tribute to native American beardless irises and to the people who have worked to make them into a new race of hardy garden perennials, by meeting in the bustling city of Shreveport.

Located in northwest Louisiana, hard by the border of Texas and the great Southwest, Shreveport is far removed from the bayou country to the southeast which is the native habitat of *giganticaerulea*, the Abbeville red, *foliosa* (now *brevicaulis*!) and the familiar *fulva*. But Shreveport has two things seldom found in one place. First, a plethora of avid collector-hybridists, and second, a veritable epidemic of artistically minded flower gardeners. As to the latter, certainly the temperate climate must have some influence. There is a somewhat similar condition in parts of Florida, for I have seen there miles of beautiful estates and gorgeous semi-tropical plantings resplendent in their exotic beauty. I am told that California is much the same with many whole communities noted for their floral displays. But in Florida (and to a great extent in California) these gardens represent the expenditure of a great deal of money on the part of wealthy part-time residents.

Not so in Shreveport. One has but to ride about the streets to be amazed at the number and variety of the flower gardens. It seems as if every home owner regardless of his financial condition considers a flower garden an integral and necessary part of daily living. Irises alone do not form the center of interest there. Shreveport is a meeting place, horticulturally speaking, of the north and the south. *Amaryllis* grow in the shade of conifers. The rose bed may be bordered with native *oxalis*. Though strange bed-fellows to the prosaic mind, mountain laurel and camellias may form the backdrop to a carpet of Texas bluebonnets and lady-slippers!

Freakish weather almost played havoc with the plans of the Shreveport members for the meeting. Those responsible for setting the dates for our national and regional meetings almost always err on the early side. It was so in Chicago, in Sioux City (Nashville to be different set its last meeting too late) and Shreveport was no exception. In the desire to share that glorious thrill of seeing the very first top-of-the-stalk bloom as it opens, we all run the risk of having more visitors than flowers. The 1951 meeting was, perforce, postponed, but even so more than three hundred irisarians attended.

The program was a full one as is attested by a glance at the published

program. The first night there were meetings for the various officers of the Society and slides for the rest. Caroline Dormon, whose writings and drawings have frequently graced the pages of the Bulletin, was the speaker at the general meeting on the second night. The program closed on the third day with a banquet in the main ballroom of the Washington Youree Hotel. In the absence of Sam Caldwell, who was having difficulties with the army at the time, your Secretary acted as master of ceremonies. Judge Rogers presided and the feature of the program was a series of Cajun stories told by Mr. Dave Levington, of Lake Charles, Louisiana.

The President's Cup was won this year by Mrs. Alex (Sally) Smith, of Shreveport. Her Louisiana native variety, Royal Gem, received a majority of the total votes cast and was chosen on the first ballot.

While credit for this most successful meeting necessarily must go jointly to Mrs. Lillian Trichel, RVP of Region 10, and Mrs. Walter Colquitt, general chairman for the meeting, it must be shared with the many members of the Shreveport Iris Society who worked at length and under great difficulties to make the 1951 meeting of the AIS an event of signal importance. In the name of the Society, the Bulletin offers them its thanks and congratulations.

We hope the following word pictures will give our readers some idea of the lovely gardens which were presented to the members en tour.

VISIT TO ARCADIA

GEDDES DOUGLAS, (Tenn.)

On the first day of the Shreveport meeting we were admonished by the committee to be ready promptly at noon. It is well that we heeded this advice for the busses left promptly, and the motorcade travelled complete with highway patrol escort, fifty-five miles through the placid Louisiana countryside to the town of Arcadia. Here we visited the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Conger, and their son, Sydney.

The first thing you see at the Conger's is a huge magnolia (grandiflora) tree which completely dominates the yard in front of the very lovely colonial house. On the right side of the house steps descend in a circular route through a rock garden which was most colorful. The Conger garden is fashioned around several deep gulches left by time and erosion. The hillsides are steep, and this difficult terrain has been landscaped so effectively that you feel that these people must have looked the world over to find this one place to fulfill their wishes. Most unusual to me was several clumps of native mountain laurel in the background of the rock garden. I would never expect to find this shrub on the southern fringe of the great central plain.

In front of the laurel were such gems as ajuga, begonia, sedums, native violets, phlox (*pilosa*, *subulata* and *divaricata*) ferns *selaginella* and many pansies. Of especial note were the "celestials," or *nemastylis*, which is a member of the iris family. Woodland paths wander over a small brook and continue the circle in the general direction of the iris plantings. These paths are planted with native flowering trees such as dogwood, the silver-bell, snowball, fringe tree, redbud and magnolia *tripetala*.

There are many native shrubs along this path—a star anise, covered with red blooms was in evidence. There was more laurel, azaleas, native viburnum, huckleberry, Virginia willow (known as "kitten tails"), elder, holly, sweet myrtle, cyrilla and red buckeye. The paths are bordered with pachysandra and in the shade of the shrubs may be found Indian pinks, lady slippers, spiderworts, *houstonia* and countless other rare flowers from the woods. Mrs. Conger told me that she has over forty different forms of wild violets. There were iris along here also—*cristata* and *verna*. Many people exclaimed aloud at the giant solomon seal. There were great colonies of monkey lilies and in the bed of the small stream clumps of *I. virginica* were in first bloom.

I mention these things in an effort to give the readers of the Bulletin some idea as to the diversity of planting of this wonderful garden. It is quite large in extent, and represents an enormous amount of effort and planning. No matter what time of the year you might see it, this garden would reward you with color, beauty and serene dignity.

As you complete the circle to the left, Sydney's iris are planted along a deep ravine which might, in time past, have been an old road bed. Now huge pines tower above, and in the bottom of the ditch Mrs. Conger has built a series of small dams. These dams are made of stacks of old magazines and they serve their purpose well. Here the native irises get what they want—moisture, humus, rich soil and filtered sunlight.

Conger's Yellow Jacket was in bloom, a creation in yellow and veined purple. Pale Hands was a large orchid pink, while Caroginia was a deep lavender and cream bicolor. Variety, Gay Deceiver, a seedling of Mrs. Hattie Clark's was outstanding in its performance in this garden and elsewhere in Shreveport.

It is a shame that the weather refused to co-operate with the irisarians, for if the Conger garden could have been seen a week later many more irises would have been open. Later, I am told, Mr. Conger had a series of seedlings to bloom, that had great overlapping petals and sepals giving them the appearance almost of a Jap "double."

The time for departure came all too soon and I was reluctant to leave this beautiful garden. I hope the Congers will allow me to come again.

THE HOME OF ROYAL GEM

MARION WALKER, (Calif.)

The 1951 Annual Meeting of the American Iris Society has passed but there are many fond memories of gardens seen and friends made that will last through the years.

The irisarians of Louisiana contributed much to the members of the American Iris Society at the Shreveport meeting. First of all the southern hospitality of these friends was most appreciated; secondly, they had flowers to show us that cannot be seen in all parts of the United States; and thirdly, they proved to us what can be done with native plants if the effort is made to find them.

Of the many beautiful gardens seen in the Shreveport area I have been asked to write about the home of Royal Gem, the winner of the President's Cup. Royal Gem was produced by Mrs. Sally Smith, of Shreveport. It was in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Smith that we first saw this beautiful Louisiana iris.

The Smiths live in a beautiful residential section of Shreveport. The house is a typical old southern style surrounded by a planting of pecan trees. It is under these pecan trees in the back yard that we had our first glimpse of the Louisiana iris growing at its best.

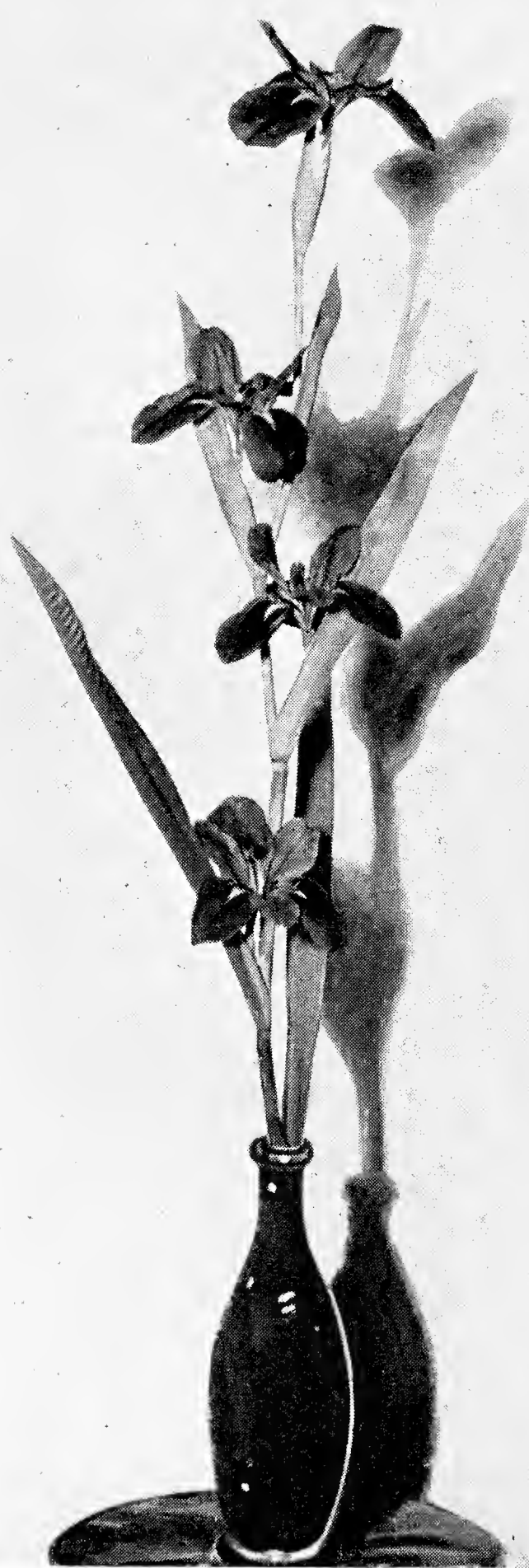
To our surprise and pleasure we found that these iris were growing in ordinary beds just as tall bearded are grown in other sections of the country. That means that others may grow these natives outside of the swampy areas where they are found. We were most happy to have this demonstration of culture.

In the extensive planting at Mrs. Smith's there were many of the best collected and bred Louisiana iris now available. There was Cherry Bounce produced by Ira Nelson. The name very well describes this iris. It is a striking cherry red. Gay Deceiver caused much comment. This iris is hard to describe but gives the general impression of an orange blend and is striking in the garden.

Saucy Minx was seen here at its best. This little iris is a gem. It too is well named because at first sight a visitor is startled by this little fellow glaring up at him from a background of soft green foliage.

Bayou Sunset was an impressive deep rose color, Arline Martin a good yellow, Cameron White and many others which are too numerous to mention. All of these graceful flowers demand the attention of the visitor and made many an iris lover wish for a spot of Louisiana Iris in his garden.

A word should be said about two iris in the garden which were outstanding and which were produced there. One is Royal Gem which won the President's Cup. The vote of those attending the convention expressed the opinion of this regal red-purple Louisiana. Only Cherry Bounce



Iris Royal Gem (Sally Smith 1947) brought to its originator the coveted President's Cup for 1951.

gave it any competition. Little was said, however, about Blue Chip which is equally as good and some day may be considered better. Blue Chip is a soft medium light blue self with excellent growing habits and flower characteristics. This iris will be heard from in the future by fanciers of Louisiana Iris.

It will be many a day before the visitors to the 1951 annual meeting forget the pleasant memories of the friendships made and the flowers seen in this and other gardens of the tour. We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to our hosts for making this grand meeting possible.

THE PRESIDENT'S CUP

The President's Cup Award was instituted in 1947 by Dr. Franklin Cook then President of the AIS. It is awarded yearly at the Annual Meeting to the outstanding registered and introduced variety seen at the meeting. It is voted on by all members present. The original cup, donated by Dr. Cook, is engraved with the name of the winning iris and its hybridizer. A small replica of the cup is given to the originator while the main cup is forwarded each year to the place of the Annual Meeting. This handsome cup may be retired from competition if won three times by the same variety.

THE CALDWELL GARDEN

GEDDES DOUGLAS, (Tenn.)

A stone's throw from the Alex Smith garden on Ockley Drive is the perfect example of what a "green thumb" can do to an ordinary city lot. Mrs. Sam Caldwell and Mr. Caldwell, erstwhile mayor of Shreveport, have used both Louisiana irises and bearded irises as a center of interest around which they have fashioned an interesting and beautiful garden.

There was blue tradescantia (spiderwort) planted with yellow columbine. Native sisyrinchium (blue-eyed grass) formed the borders to several beds. The rose King Midas framed a planting of iris in the foreground. Spuria varieties, Mrs. Tait, Sunny Day and Shelford Giant gave variety along with Dutch iris White Excelsior. Bearded varieties which I noted especially were Alline Rogers, Lake George, Azure Skies and the very lovely Dixie Belle. This last variety seems admirably suited to the growing conditions in the Southwest.

Mrs. Caldwell had many seedling amaryllis, some of which were quite distinctive.

THE COLQUITT GARDEN

ALLINE ROGERS, (Texas)

The border of Johnny-Jump-Ups that grow along the front walk of the Colquitt home gave a cheerful welcome to the iris guests. Never have I seen a better groomed row of these sprightly flowers. In reality each flower face was at attention in the crisp coolness of the morning. At the door of the cottage Baby Doll roses bloomed; and the color combination here was at its best with Louisiana native pink phlox blooming at the base.

Near by our hostess graciously posed for camera fans. It was indeed a toss-up as she stood by her iris namesake for one to determine whether Minnie Colquitt was prettier in person than iris Minnie Colquitt growing in the garden.

Good luck or hard work had rewarded this garden with success in the growing of bearded iris. They were superbly grown. Cloud Castle, Lady Boscawen, and Mr. Hall's Radiation were well bloomed. There was a magnificent bud on Ballerina. Agnes Whiting's white seedling #498 was dramatically outstanding. It was beautifully ruffled and had the texture of a French kid glove. Black Beauty, Bright Song, and Blue Mood were also in perfect flower.

But the focal point of interest in the garden was the corner planting of Fred De Forest's guest iris. Cloud Cap, Caroline Jane, New Hope, Color Carnival, Clear Sailing, and seedling #547 comprised this group.

These exhausted all the ohs and ahs of the iris lovers. Many who made a note of "must have" for the seven-inch blossom pink Cloud Cap may be disappointed in acquiring it. Little wonder that it was completely sold out in '50 and only reservations made for '51. If the De Forests could have seen the magnificent performance—in Louisiana sunshine—of their iris children they would have been deeply thrilled.

Aside from the guest iris there were many established clumps. All of these were well grown. The Capitol and Sky Ranger were not tall but were outstanding.

In the back area of the Colquitt garden the herbaceous planting was striking. Under a tall cypress tree grew azaleas, native phlox, and named Siberians—Snowy Egret, Snowcrest, and Caesar's Brother. This bed was bordered with dwarf yellow hemerocallis (Flavina) and Spiderwort.

All true Louisiana gardeners have a spot for native iris, and Minnie was no exception. In the extreme rear was her collection of natives. These had, however, passed their peak bloom. Hundreds of bulbs still showed foliage color among this planting. It took little imagination to know that during blooming season here was a galaxy of color.

Congratulations, Minnie, on not only being a super Convention chairman, but also on being a successful gardener of the first order!

CROSS LAKE PARADISE

ALLINE ROGERS, (Texas)

To one from the dry windy plains of West Texas the varied terrain of the Gorton garden was breathtaking. Nature has indeed helped the Doctor and his wife with their beautiful setting. The sloping terraces dotted with majestic trees, gradually eased into cat-tail (*Typha latifolia*) beds in Cross Lake. Here several white ducks quietly preened their feathers. The entire garden setting was dramatic.

Fronting the lake was a redwood shingle house. At the rear of this dwelling three walls formed the background for a small garden where azaleas, camellias, and ajuga were planted between grey stepping stones. The dramatic highlight of the entire garden was this area where a stone chimney pointed up graceful blooming tendrils of white clematis Henryi.

Well-groomed beds of Gorton amaryllis seedlings (Dutch hybrid) were coming into bloom. As a backdrop for these flowers trelliswork carried yellow (Marechal Niel) and white (Frau Karl Druschki) climbing roses.

Mr. Gerald J. Donahue, RVP Region 9, (Left); Miss Willie Birge, RVP Region 17, (Right) admire seedling held by Mrs. Clare Gorton at "Cross Lake Paradise."





On the high area with a back planting of broad-leafed evergreens and pines were irregular drifts of bearded iris. Probably shade had prevented these flowers from performing well. Following the property line this same bed, after giving space for a garage, resumed its function with ferns, columbine, hardy phlox, daisies, violets, lilies, hardy asters, trillium, amaryllis, Dutch and Siberian iris, Harrison's yellow rose, and most every flower in the catalogue. My interest was at a pitch to find in bloom *Asarum virginicum*, a southern species of wild ginger. Equally delighted was I with the many clumps of bird's foot violets (*viola pedata*). To name the other wild flowers that were naturalized would include another long list. Here may I pause to commend the conservation efforts of Louisiana gardeners. Not only have they salvaged their native iris from bogs and swamps, but they are keenly conscious of their wild flowers and are successfully duplicating their natural habitat and growing them.

Beyond two huge ornamental jars were the water gardens connected by rustic bridges. Blooming profusely were the collected and named varieties of Louisiana iris. A lovely red seedling was *Ida Stone*, and another was *Polka Dot*. Astonishing as it may seem, the bloom of this outstanding seedling found its way into the pocket of a "pollen snatcher." And amazing, too, the identity of the person is known.

While nature did aid the owners of this lovely place, the garden itself was distinguished by the excellent horticulture, a tribute to the two charming owners.

My lasting memory will be Mrs. Gorton's gracious welcome as the busses arrived in her bit of Paradise. And lastly, will I remember the waddling scamper of the ducks as they fled from the many human beings who had invaded their quietness. In desperation they swam far out of sight in Cross Lake.

Truly, Dr. and Mrs. Gorton, "you have your cake and eat it too."





THE DICKINSON GARDEN

F. COOK, (Ill.)

When I see a garden I want to know who the owner is, what he is like and what his main interests are. Upon approaching the garden of Mr. Ed Dickinson, certain very salient facts became immediately known. Here was a gardener who has produced in a rather short time a garden of most pleasing proportions. He was a bachelor. He had built his house out of one-hundred-year-old bricks taken from a plantation some miles away. When you entered his home you realized that he was a man of extreme versatility. Fishing and hunting were his main hobbies. The entryway on either side of the sidewalk consisted of a double row of tree roses bedded down with hybrid teas of various sorts. Upon opening the door, one found a loggia with the galleries in soft pine decorated with monster specimens of the game which he had captured. Fish and deer and other wild animals peppered the walls. Here was the evidence of a man who knew what he wanted and got it. His garden gave evidence of the same pure purpose. Formally laid out with much attention to detail, the garden proceeded with an allee lined with hybrid teas passing through an arch covered by climbing roses to a summer house, beyond which stretched an unbelievable variety of tall bearded iris laid out in definite color combinations starting with blue and yellow, and ending up with copper and purple. Even from the entrance looking towards the sun, one could see the copper-henna iris in the very far corner of the lot. This turned out to be Sunset Blaze, the President's Cup winner of last year, produced by Dr. Rudolph Kleinsorge. In another corner a mass of Spring Chimes reared its blossoms to fifty inches.

The whole setting was delightfully framed by purple magnolias and bay trees, azaleas in front of the house, and the most immense bush and tree wisterias it has been my good fortune to see for many years. Native and Buford holly graced the edges of the garden, and an immense water-oak stood as sentinel in the back yard with pecan trees beyond. Camellias in the solarium, Bougainvillia and lemon trees did their best to produce an almost tropical effect. One may even suspect that Katie the housekeeper, who had been there for forty years, might have had something to do with the innate prosperity of all growing things inside and out of this house. Let us also mention Frank White, the yard man, who had kept this garden in perfect trim for the last eight years. Roses were well pruned and consisted of Red Brilliance, Paul's Scarlet, and King Midas on arches that had been prepared by Frank White. Everything about this garden was in apple-pie order. One could tell that Ed Dickinson was a very color-perceptive man and tried to make good combinations of color. Blues next to yellows and pink blends, whites next to deep yellows and blues, purples next to bronzes, lavenders with

blue and white and rose. All these color combinations went to make a garden of surpassing beauty.

Noted especially as doing well were Spring Romance, a very fine lemon yellow, Carousel of gold and violet, Starless Night, a red-violet of deepest hue, Fort Knox seemingly gilded, Moonlit Sea, violet-blue with the gold pouring out of its haft, Lady Naomi, delicate, prolific plicata, Cloth of Gold, light yellow of intensely brilliant coloring and all good habits.

Blue Parakeet was a newcomer to me, of sky blue with a yellow haft, a novel combination indeed, Bataan of sorry memory, was indeed funereal. Sky Tints really reminded one of a royal sunset; Snow Velvet, one of our good old-timers from Mr. Sass, white of kid-skin texture with a yellow haft; Sylvia Murray, doing herself proud in lavender blue; Dixie Bell of Milliken's a vigorous very swirly white, deserving a great deal of attention; and Greig Lapham, a clear violet purple, the last seedling to be introduced by that one-time dean of New England hybridizers, L. Merton Gage.

I have never been one to spare the rod and spoil the child, and on established clumps the following iris were not doing at all well: Easter Gold was apparently tremendously tender and suffered severely from winter damage; Ruffled Bouquet was so gray and muddy that it could hardly warrant the name "bouquet"; Admiral Nimitz would have been ashamed of his namesake since it was a rather poor doer with a narrow pinched haft; and Stella Polaris, as usual, being a daughter of Easter Morn, showed signs of extreme tenderness and winter injury.

All in all this garden was one of the finest gardens of exclusively tall-bearded iris to be found in Louisiana. Mr. Dickinson is not only to be congratulated upon his planning and execution of a fine iris garden, but also upon his selection of varieties and close attention of cultural detail. His garden remains in memory as a clear exposition of the fact that tall-bearded iris may well be grown as far south as Louisiana under normal cultural conditions. We all enjoyed ever so much seeing it, and realized the painstaking work which went into the production of such a fine garden.

THE MATHEW'S GARDEN

J. E. WILLS, (Tenn.)

The last garden to be visited on the tour was that of Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Mathews. Our visit here not only proved that Mrs. Mathews is a superlative gardener, but also indicated that she is possessed of good luck, unless the fact that her garden had more bloom than the average must also be attributed to skill of foresight on her part. At any rate this garden came closest to being at its peak. The others had given us plenty of irises to see but the effect had been one of sprinkles of color. Here

there were more nearly masses, such as the visitors from the North were accustomed to in their bearded iris gardens.

The garden of Mrs. Mathews is very large but one is not conscious of this since it consists of a series of compartments or vistas through which one wanders, as if from room to room, around a sort of circle back to the starting place. Toward the front and in other suitable areas where the ground is high and open were tall bearded irises. These had suffered somewhat from the freeze but a number were blooming excellently. Among these were Heritage and a new blend from Mr. Milliken called Burning Driftwood. In the filtered light of the large trees, which add so much to the beauty of the scene, the Louisiana irises were growing, some in large flooded seedling areas, others in beds near a stream, a little pool, a small lake or pond.

Mrs. Mathews uses "Bog Culture" in growing her native irises. The small stream that meanders through the large part of the planting is pumped from wells drilled for the purpose. The soil is rich and black from the addition of well decayed humus. Even through the "boggiest" places there are pathways made from laying two logs parallel to each other and filling in between them with soil.

A wide range of other plants besides irises gave variety to the scene; large flowered clematis on the trees, native red flowered buckeye (not the tree we know in the North), phlox, heuchera, royal and lady ferns, spiderlilies, and fringe trees were just a few of the things noted. There were also other kinds of irises: *Iris tectorum* and *tectorum alba*. It was difficult to see everything. Marion Walker from California was disappointed to discover that he had missed seeing a nice clump of Douglasiana iris Orchid Sprite. Some of Mrs. Mathews' named Louisiana varieties were unfortunately not blooming, but we did see excellent bloom on Angel Fare. This is a large flower of lovely bright orchid-pink. The spelling of the name is correct, by the way, as it made her think of food for angels.

The large seedling beds which held considerable bloom were very interesting, and clearly showed by resemblances in the rows that planned, controlled crosses were being made. Some seedlings showed very excellent branching with a large number of blooms. The most outstanding seedling, at least at the time of our visit, was a large, flat, pale blue feathered or lined with white, almost suggesting a *plicata*. This striking flower was tentatively called Blue Feather.

As always, Mrs. Mathews was a gracious hostess in the garden.

Super Iris for a Dollar or Less

DR. FRANKLIN COOK, (Ill.)

What with the whole world in such a sorry mess that no one can "afford" *anything*, it behooves us to use proper care and precaution in selecting our iris before we get carried away with wild descriptions of the miraculous qualities of ten to fifteen dollar novelties.

There are plenty of really superior iris in existence selling for a dollar or less, many of which are definitely not surpassed in their color classes by anything in the fifteen to twenty-dollar brackets. That is, if you value qualities other than size alone. With huge size the color elements are spread thin. It is rare indeed to find a very large iris having anywhere near the color intensity of a smaller one of the same general color. The largest iris are also less wind resistant, and in a typical June windstorm preceding our summer rains, the big fellows thrash around on their tall stalks like a sailboat out of control, while the medium-sized iris with stiff substance and medium height take everything the weatherman has to offer and come up smiling afterwards.

Very seriously, then, the pendulum is swinging slowly back to medium-sized flowers with adequately branched, stiff stems, and with heavy—almost leathery—substance. A year ago today, while my wife and I were attending the Annual Meeting in Omaha-Sioux City-Mapleton, a hailstorm hit the Chicago area and really ripped up our planting. All the "big-fellows" were torn to shreds—knocked flat with no "come-back." The medium-sized iris with good "weather resistance" still stood straight and proud. The emphasis will be placed on GARDEN VALUE ABOVE ALL ELSE in the resume' that follows.

What do we mean by "garden value"? It is exactly this: We mean how much real *color* can an iris contribute to the entire garden picture, in what mass, at what height, and with what general effectiveness! After all, that's what we're working for, isn't it?

Iris for a dollar or less per rhizome can fulfill every expectation we may have in this regard. Let the millionaires buy the expensive new varieties, and let us bourgeois iris fanciers have a garden full of fine varieties that will put them to shame. And don't think we can't do it!

In 1942 I wrote a short piece for the Bulletin (#87) on "My Perfect Iris." Many of these, after nine years will be relisted here, unsurpassed by any more modern introductions. Then after three years in the Service I wrote another article in Bulletin #99 entitled "After Three Years." Many of this listing will be included in today's recommendations. Now, after about twenty years of iris observation, including the growing of some 600 odd varieties in my own garden, I feel myself in the position to guide the newcomers to our Society to the well of

satisfaction in choosing varieties that will behave in goodly fashion in most sections of the country, that will be good-doers almost anywhere, and that will perform as only a good iris should perform.

In the whites, there are three types: the cool blue-whites with Snow Flurry as an outstanding example; the pure white-whites such as Priscilla, with no yellow markings in haft or beard and the "kid-skin" whites with a little creamy tinge and a yellow beard, with Snow Velvet a classic example.

In the Blue-whites there is only one iris that can compete even remotely with Snow Flurry (for under \$1) and that is White City, an English introduction with a pale blue beard. White Wedgewood would belong here except for the fact that her substance is poor and her stalk weak. Among the white-whites no iris (again under \$1) can compete with Priscilla except perhaps Patricia which is short branched but in a clump notable indeed. These are both medium-sized flowers but if you want a huge "stunner" pick Winter Carnival!

In the "kid-skin" whites Matterhorn reigns supreme. The elegance of texture and substance defies description. Snow Velvet, with more gold in the haft is excellent while Southern Snow and Arctic are extremely good, and Miss Bishop and Jake are equally fine. Smaller than these, but prolific and as if gilded with pure gold is Mary E. Nicholls, a connoisseur's iris if ever there was one.

Plicatas and Amoenas

Among the white ground "Plicatas" (stiched or edged violet) Blue Shimmer is supreme. Plant it in light shade for best effect. It's stalk is somewhat weak, and the violet-blue is "brushed on" rather than hemstitched. If you want anything better you'll have to save up \$8 and buy Lela Dixon, which has a strong 38-inch stalk and even purer blue.

In purple and white plicatas Minnie Colquitt with her definitive solid rim of royal purple and Lady Naomi with the violet brushed on rather heavily, easily take the cake. Both are superb iris.

Wabash and Amigo are still the outstanding amoenas and neglectas of them all. Amigo is represented on my terrace garden by 200 plants, all from 3 rhizomes eight years ago and I sold off two hundred roots two years ago to a commercial dealer who was running short of them! The "pansy iris" is worthy of a place in the fanciest garden and no iris garden is complete without it.

Madame Maurice Lassailly, a French variety has more of a blue-bicolor effect and is magnificent in a clump.

When we get to the pale and light blues, competition is keen. Azure Skies of Mrs. Pattison's, is a lovely subject for the foreground, growing from 24 to 30 inches, and in such a setting her broadly flaring falls set it off as no other light blue could. For a somewhat taller light blue,

select Great Lakes. The Judges of the AIS say you can't go wrong on this one and for a still taller blue choose Bandmaster, a stunning huge flower of Mr. Hall's, and a wonderful "doer". Sylvia Murray comes in here in a very light tone and Blue Rhythm which is in between light and medium blue, comes close to perfection with her 42-inch stalks, great uniformity and stylish form. Castalia has been a permanent resident of my garden for ten years, and while never divided, reset, fertilized or sprayed for borer or rot, has carried forth a magnificent thirty-foot clump of splendid bloom each year and every year planted behind a row of Pink Ruffles. The effect: ethereal!

In the medium blues the selection is easy: Chivalry is the only contender worth mentioning, and while it misses by a dollar or two the limits set by this article it will pay you to stretch your money a little and buy this iris. Free-flowering, strong-stemmed, well-branched and most beautifully formed—with the thickest substance of any iris in the garden and twice the "lasting qualities" of most any iris of any color whatsoever—it is the PERFECT IRIS of all time to me. In my garden this, year, Chivalry was one of the first to bloom and one of the latest to pass out—three solid weeks of perfect bloom; 15 buds per stalk and almost always three open flowers to a stalk. No single iris caused more comment from amateur and professional alike. And from three rhizomes four years ago I now have thirty!

Little Competition in Orchid Pinks

Similarly in the orchid pinks there is little competition. Pink Ruffles has it over any others in the color class hands down. From two rhizomes eight years ago I now have three hundred, or enough to produce a double row in the foreground of three beds a hundred feet long. Clear-colored ruffled, uniform in height at 22 to 28 inches, and with marvelous substance for so fragile looking a flower, it is the ideal flower of its coloring. Manyusya of the Sass's is almost identical in color but 36 to 40 inches tall. Paul Cook's Pink Reflection, Harriett Thoreau and Dream-castle are taller and more substantial with a little more depth of coloring.

Lavender is a relatively new color in iris and Lavender Mist is the "real McCoy" according to the color chart. It is truly "lavender" and only one other iris so far as I know carries this hue at any price. This is Mr. Hall's Lynn Langford. If your heart is set on this color save up a little and buy Lynn Langford. No more ethereal and "feminine" iris exists anywhere.

Blue Blends are rare indeed. Serenite is a thoroughly fine one and seldom listed, while the ultimate in this class is Douglas' Carousel, blending blue, violet and gold in a most enchanting manner—its price is still above the level of this article but it is so free flowering and rapid of increase it is worth waiting for.

So-called pink-blends are numerous and noteworthy. All must be compared with Cascade Splendor to merit distinction. Cascade Splendor is a soft pink-apricot-tan with wonderful substance, good carrying qualities and superb form. It lies behind the heritage of several expensive new blends. They have to be really good to surpass their parent.

The new "Flamingo Pinks" are a long ways from "true (baby ribbon) pink" but they are a new departure from orchid pinks into what the color charts call various shades of "Coral Pink"—pinks with a slight yellow suffusion. Most of them are priced at from \$5 to \$20, and there is just one that comes anywhere near our price classification and that is Pink Cameo at from two to three dollars. Anything and everything at less than this figure is apt to be so pale a "pink" that your best friend will look at you as if to say, "Brother, you belong in the 'Big House' if you call THAT pink." Now Dave Hall will take exception to that statement of mine and many of his newer pinks *approach* "real pink" but to my mind there "ain't no such animal" as even a half-way approach to true pink yet, and I've seen them all.

Now we come to the yellows. To my mind there are only two yellows that come in our price range, and they are completely unsurpassed by any other yellows at *any* price.. They are Cloth of Gold (Whiting) and Ola Kala (Sass), both deep yellows of remarkably pure coloring and all good habits, the latter being a little darker than the former.

When we come to the "coppery-blends," a relatively new color in iris, we have to go up to \$2 to get anything remarkable. By far the most brilliant in this price range is Juliet followed closely by Cordovan and Bryce Canyon. Sunset Serenade is very lovely, a coppery-apricot-buff, late-blooming, and within our price range: nothing in my garden is more effective with deep and medium blues and violets!

Three for a dollar are rhizomes of Louvois, the chocolate-maroon iris. I sometimes put a plant or two of it in my seeding beds to draw the oh's and ah's of the onlookers. Introduced in 1936 it still looks like an aristocrat and nothing has come along since then to challenge its position. Lord Dongan is another iris that blooms so late that it has never received proper recognition. A two-tone purple and violet bicolor it is knock-out when planted with deep yellows such as Ola Kala. Master Charles is an extremely floriferous variety of chestnut purple adding greatly to the garden picture, while Favori in deep magenta purple is a zipper-upper wherever placed. Sable in lustrous red purple is a classic, while Black Forest is the deepest of blue-purples one can imagine.

So the purpose of this article is accomplished. You don't have to have "money" to paint your garden with rainbow colors. You have to have the know-how and imagination to go with it. Then you'll stun the neighbors with a really well-considered program. Then you'll have demonstrated how to do much with little.

MRS. GUY Y. WILLIAMS

Gardener Extraordinary

MRS. PAUL UPDEGRAFF, (Okla.)

A group of young garden club members visited the iris garden of Mrs. Guy Y. Williams, Norman, Oklahoma, last year. After looking at every flower, one of them exclaimed, "Oh, Mrs. Williams, how did you get everything so perfect?" Mrs. Williams smiled kindly and replied, "Well, girls, if you had worked 35 years on a garden, you would expect it to be pretty good." And there lies the story, 35 years of gardening in one place, 35 years of all kinds of weather, 35 years of round-the-year planning, feeding, planting, trimming, mowing, all the work that goes into making a garden. It's a long time from 1916 to 1951, but the years go swiftly in a garden. No sooner do the flowers fade, than the plans for the next year assume shape. And the beauty and satisfaction of a job well done is compensation enough!

Irises have come a long way from the first three Mrs. Williams had. Compare Celeste, Caprice, and Sans Souci with the new color, form and substance of today's flowers. "I'll never forget that first iris order," Mrs. Williams said. "My friend, Mrs. A. R. Ramey, had the first iris in town. She and I together placed an order for six each from Storrs-Harrison in Philadelphia. They arrived during a driving rain. I put on my raincoat and boots, went out into the yard, and planted those rhizomes. I did not know enough to realize I could have waited."

Her next order was from Jay, an Arkansas dealer. She and Mrs. Ramey ordered fifty named varieties at a total cost of ten dollars. They divided the order and exchanged varieties as the plants increased. And did they increase! For years, Mrs. Williams furnished flowers for every occasion, for the church, for faculty affairs, and for different clubs. The first irises of what she terms the modern ones were Lent A. Williamson, Ambassador, Grace Sturdivant, and Mrs. Valerie West. Most of these she bought from E. B. Williamson. "I want to say here," remarked Mrs. Williams, "just how much I think iris lovers owe to Mr. Williamson. He answered all my letters about planting, and seemed to take a personal interest in my problems. All the time, too, he was working toward improving the strains."

In 1924, the first garden club was organized in Norman. Members of the club to which the two friends belonged, secured the Farr Memorial Library, which was being sent around by the American Iris Society. Mrs. Williams really got acquainted with "The Genus Iris" through William R. Dykes. She plunged into serious study, and you have to know her to realize just how serious. Even today, some fellow garden



A part of the Williams garden, looking west toward College Avenue.

club members got enough iris programs in those early days to last them a lifetime. Other members, however, share Mrs. Williams' enthusiasm. In 1950, five of the 17 Norman garden club members belonged to the American Iris Society. Mrs. Williams herself is a life member and has been since 1941. She has been an accredited iris judge for seven years. She attends the national meetings, visits outstanding iris gardens, and adds to her own stock of newer varieties.

She was quick to see the advantages of iris in a garden. The color diversity of the flower and its landscape value appealed to her. The pale blues are her favorites. Like all gardeners, she has experimented with different methods, some of which seem rather odd now. "One time, some one recommended lime for the iris. I carted plaster from a torn-down house across the street until I thought I would fall." Today, she plants her flowers in built-up beds, well stocked with barnyard manure and compost. Vigoro, watered in, just before planting the rhizomes, gives the extra growth so necessary at first.



Mrs. Guy Y. Williams in her garden.

The garden itself is located at 468 Elm, just north of Oklahoma University campus. Her husband has taught chemistry there since both of them graduated 45 years ago this spring. The garden covers an entire block and is so designed that it comprises three different areas, the front garden south of the two-story frame house, the middle garden west of the house, and the back garden still further west to College Avenue. Irises form the principal display, but many trees, flowering shrubs, roses, and bulbs add interest to the planting. The Williams' garden meets the three requirements of a well-landscaped one, with its open center, massed plantings to the sides, and vistas to the off-scape.

The most spectacular iris plantings are contained in the two display beds located on either side of the path in the center garden. The first bed has Golden Eagle, Gloriole, Remembrance, Mary E. Nicholls, The Capitol, Spindrift, and Amigo in front of single Japanese peonies, Isani-Gidui, Guyija, and Gold Mine. Tulips, Dutch iris, and pansies in harmonizing colors form the borders. The second bed uses oranges, yellows,

and reds. Golden Majesty, Naranja, Ola Kala, Golden Spike, and Prince of Orange accentuate the color in Ranger, Solid Mahogany, Edward Lapham, Wine Glory, Dreamland, Display, Copper Rose, Red Dominion, and Garden Magic. Kelway's Glorious, Cherry Hill, Martha Bullock, Solange, and Walter Faxon peonies are in the background. A pergola and fence to the south are abloom with climbing roses, Mme. Edouard Herriot, Herbert Hoover, Silver Moon, Kitty Kininmonth, Goldfinch, and Cecile Brunner.

Hemerocallis take over when the irises leave off. Well established clumps include Minor, Luteola, Gold Dust, and Sovereign which bloom early. Crown of Gold, Florham, and Modesty furnish mid-season bloom, while Ophir, Mrs. A. H. Austin, Lady Fermoy-Hesketh, Hyperion, Emperor, Golden West, and Sunny West carry the brunt of late bloom. It's worth seeing this 35-year-old garden. And its owner and builder has proved herself to be a gardener worthy of the name.

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Color and Your Garden

ISABELLE BOWEN HENDERSON, (N.C.)

Few of us tend our irises in happy untutored ignorance. We spend countless hours talking about them and reading about them. We keep records, make kodachromes, and even belong to "robins." Sometime we try our hand at arranging irises in vases which we learn to call containers.

Iris lovers can be divided into two groups—those for whom the flower is all important (most of the horticulturalists and hybridizers belong here) and those to whom the beauty of the garden is the thing. The latter would rather have a big lush clump of Pink Ruffles in the garden than one superb stalk of Pink Formal. Your reaction to this statement will place you. Though the line of cleavage itself is well marked, some of us are straddlers, inclining first on one side, then the other, but seldom firmly fixed on both feet.

As horticulturalists the ground is firm under our feet and the way well marked. Science is the guiding light. But as garden designers and flower arrangers our way is uncertain and the ground less firm, especially in color, the boggiest corner in the field of aesthetics. Here a number of beckoning lights confuse and confound as various color theorists seek followers.

The difficulty is that beauty in color cannot be composed by recipe, like a cake. Nevertheless the world is full of people who are afraid of color and who want rules and schemes and plans. There are almost as many other people who are eager to pick out colors and make gardening easy for them. The absurd limit in this appears in an advertisement in a current garden magazine offering individual seeds color-coated like pills to indicate their potential color performance. This is one up on seeds imbedded in soluble tape for "finicky" gardeners, and full-sized paper patterns for neat flower bed layouts.

There are many books on color, mostly long and technical with more concern for color photography, color printing, color television and color in manufacturing than for irisarians. They are not very good reading and are apt to leave the average reader dismayed. There are many short pieces about color which either offer pleasant nibbles or such concentrated nourishment that it cannot be retained. Of the latter, the treatment of "Color" in the National Federation of Garden Clubs Handbook for Flower Shows offers the maximum in a nut shell. A color-illustrated article in *Life Magazine* on July 3, 1944, is a fine treatment from all the approaches—physics (light) psychology (the eye and the emotions)

and pigment-mixing, or the Munsell System (paints out of a tube). The latter, which is what the Garden Clubs cling to, gives us our color names and terminology nicely organized and easily understood. This is the system we have all been exposed to from kindergarten up, having begun with crayolas, if over forty, finger paints if younger. We are all familiar with the pigment-mixing color chart with its complementary pairs of colors, red-green, blue-orange, and yellow-violet. We, who have proved to ourselves with paint that those pairs grey each other when mixed, are quite disconcerted to find that in light mixture they behave differently. For example, in the mixture by eye, as of little spots fused at a distance or color mixed by spinning top, yellow and blue prove themselves to be complements, since they mix forming grey, not green, as they do in blended blue and yellow pigments. The psychologists hold with the physicists, for the eye itself determines complementary color pairs. The after image of yellow is blue, of blue, yellow, and so they are of greatest contrast each to the other when seen together. The Federation of Garden Clubs carries the pigment system beyond its proper limits in attributing to the pigment complements the contrast effects which belong to the complements of colored light. So, having put on clay feet, the Flower Show Judges should walk softly among the flower arrangements. Dogmatism concerning color does not become them.

Knowledge of Fundamentals Needed

There is so much to know about color which can be agreed upon that it is pointless to dwell on the disagreements. In fact we need to know the fundamentals first before we dare apply any rules, so we will not come a cropper, like the man who, reading that peas should be planted in a drill, went out with his brace and bit and put each pea in its own hole—a story told at the recent Garden Symposium in Williamsburg.

William Hogarth, trying to find a common denominator for beauty in any field, concluded that it lay in varying well. In the visual arts that would be varying in line, color, textures, shapes and sizes. Hogarth's own famous "Line of Beauty," or S curve, is seen at every turn in any flower show, done in flowers and/or fruit and sometimes driftwood! Hogarth himself probably never thought of applying it to flowers in a vase. He found it best exemplified in the curve of a woman's leg. In checking this point I failed to find exact reference to a woman's leg, (which I remember reading somewhere) but found instead on p. 160 in Gilbert & Kuhn's *History of Aesthetics*, "he uses his line to indicate the beauty of a large number of objects, natural and artificial, for example the line of an iris petal, of bells, various bones of the body and corsets." So welcome to Hogarth as an iris admirer!

In varying, extremes are to be avoided, lest too great contrast produce

a jarring clash or too great similarity produce monotony. This moderation is the "happy medium," the "Golden Mean."

The principle of dominance is also fundamental. In color that means that one color or color effect should hold attention over all others, though it be enhanced by some contrast, for variety. As a small amount of red would dominate a much larger amount of green, dominance is not measured by quantity. The position of a color in the composition (garden or flower arrangement) can add to or subtract from its importance, and so an understanding of balance is important in arranging colors.

Messrs. Mason and Dixon Would Approve

Since color can create or intensify moods or emotions, such as gaiety, somberness, calmness, etc., this is to be reckoned with, though not to the exactness required by a South Carolina town's flower show whose schedule asked for flower arrangements depicting "Southern Chivalry," "Southern Bravery," and "Southern Hospitality," accessories permitted. (I saw the schedule but not the show. I continue to wonder if the accessories might have been duelling pistols, a Confederate flag, and beaten biscuits, respectively). As to the stimulus of color, in the iris garden as anywhere, control is necessary if, for example, too much yellow becomes boistrous in its demand for cheerfulness where serenity is wanted. There is no rule to forbid the use of yellow with other colors of irises, but there should be an understanding that yellow can readily over-stimulate to the point of irritation. At this point the true gardener could go out with scissors even if the color offender were Rocket itself, something which the extreme irisarian could never do.

One thing which nobody can refute is that when harmony in color is desired, similarity produces it, contrast destroys it. Similarity can be within the colors themselves, as when they all are either shades, tints, greyed, or analogous, or from an outside influence such as the color of the light itself. Sunlight is a harmonizer, laying warm light on everything alike, and adding, in muted contrast, blue violet to all the shadows. Unbelievers can see this most easily by observing sunlight and shadow on snow. At twilight there is a subtle change in the relative brilliance of the various colors. Blue seems most blue and luminous at this time, a fact often noted by those who strive for true blue in irises; and at this time yellow drops back in brilliance.

Repetition of a color throughout a passage can give a tied-together, unified effect which is pleasing. The color of iris foliage is most fortunately soft greyish blue-green and never St. Patrick's green, so that the worst could never happen even should Mrs. Whiting or Mr. Lapham produce a real fire-truck red iris. Color of the soil is repeated often

throughout the iris garden—since irises do not relish ground covers, and unless its color is fairly neutral, it influences the iris colors, and contrasts with iris foliage. If it is a red or yellow-tan clay it will harmonize with the warmer, richer-toned irises like Display, Bryce Canyon, or Copper Glow and will welcome the contrast of the full meaty blues such as Blue Frills and Lake Shannon. But such colors would destroy the delicate clarity of the pale pinks and lavenders. When the precious Cherie and Lilac Lane bloom, such earthy color should be subdued with a shifting of damp peat. If it is necessary to admit the color of nearby buildings to the garden picture they must be reckoned with and not disregarded, for if we cannot defeat them we must join them. Red brick, for example. Peat spreading is no longer feasible, and since no cleverness could force a reconciliation between Dreamcastle or Mulberry Rose and brick-red, it is necessary to plant them elsewhere or give them to a neighbor with a white house. Sometimes—not very often—but sometimes, the very blueness of sky and hills can be made part of the garden, can be pulled into the garden itself by means of the flower colors there. Mr. Junius Fishburn, in Roanoke, Virginia, does it with a late blooming species lilac hedge at the back of his iris garden which meets the greyer violets of the distant mountains, and gives color emphasis to the blues, pinks and violets in the garden. The setting is indeed important as well as the jewels.

Mistakes and Shortcomings

Having stated that only the fundamentals of color harmony are important to understand and remember, and having pointed out that in planning the use of the colors of the irises, we must consider all else that meets the eye as we look at the irises, I now dare to be more particular. I shall list in order of their grievousness some of the color mistakes and shortcomings I have seen in my own garden and elsewhere.

Spottiness. The eye likes masses (big, middle-sized, little—varying in size), is charmed by rhythm of colors flowing into each other, and repeating themselves throughout the garden. Ellen Shipman, noted landscape designer, says that most American gardeners use too great a variety of plants and colors. Sometimes similar iris colors can be grouped and so appear as one mass instead of several as when interspersed with other colors. Working for color dominance is one of the best ways of avoiding spottiness, as colors are admitted on the basis of their similarity, that is, tints, or the pale colors, shades, or the deep full bodied darker colors, cool colors in which blue predominates, warm colors in which red or yellow predominate. Analogous colors are also related but their use in the iris garden is always limited to a passage which includes the color of the iris foliage.

Jolting contrast. White is most upsetting when used in plantings where warm, rich color predominates, behaving like pieces of white paper scattered on an oriental rug. Where white predominates, however, clear pale colors are seen to best advantage—a perfect foil for exquisite Amandine, Lynn Langford, Distance or Dreamcastle. The deep yellows are also difficult and because of their attraction should be used warily, especially the egg yolk yellows, the Rockets, Francelias, Ola Kalas and such, which are in league with the sun itself which lends them added brilliance. They should be eased into the mixed color planting in the company of their own gentler kin, such as Snoqualmie and Old Parchment, the subtle tannish Maple Sugar and less subtle, deeper Tobacco Road. In such association they seem less prone to steal the show.

Too close planting. Very few irises are improved by cheek to cheek comparison with their neighbors. The go-between of columbine is welcome, for it offers a variety in size of flower and foliage. Often just space between is more valuable than more bloom in the garden.

Too much repetition of iris foliage. This can become monotonous in a planting where irises are numerous, especially when the iris are not in bloom. I consider hemerocallis foliage not too good with iris foliage because of its similarity. Valuable variations would be thalictrums (meadow rue), Florence fennel (like green smoke becoming chartreuse when blooming) false indigo, thermopsis, the artimesias and astilbes, nice grey mats of pinks freshly sheered of spent blossoms, and blue tipped mounds of nepeta—in fact anything sufficiently different.

Too active back-grounds. This is most distressing to the photographer who quickly learns that bricks can be more conspicuous in a picture than flowers. Even hedges or leafy backgrounds can detract from the beauty of the irises when the leaves are large or shiny. Evenly clipped hedges with very small leaves are most desirable backgrounds for irises. Some evergreens give nice variety in greens and texture, especially when darker or bluer than iris foliage.

Poor doers. How often we leave them hoping that next year they will do better. They make the gaps and breaks in the planting. I had Indiana Night when it was new and much talked about. I nursed and pampered it, and following Mrs. Blake's advice, "An iris is like a lady. Sometimes she likes a little trip," I moved her from one choice spot to another with no check in her decline. Her name stake, like a small tomb stone, was always her most important feature at blooming time. Last summer I took up the remaining toe of her and stuck it in a box of other irises going to a friend in Connecticut. Perhaps she was like Kathleen (who wanted to go home), and I should have sent her back to Mr. Cook. She

belongs in this color discussion only in a "non-being" sense, as my philosopher husband would say. I never saw her bloom.

The peculiar blends. These are often quite disagreeable, seen cheek to cheek, especially when one is on the warm side, and the other on the cold side. In my planting, Dinah Shore and Michaelangelo elbowed each other in such animosity that I was tempted to cut down one or the other. A pinkish blend such as Cedar Rose should not be asked to compete with such a brilliant blend as the golden apricot—copper Russet Wings, Blends, seen near white, or delicate clear colors, take on a dingy look instead of the subtle, intriguing effect they produce when examined closely as individuals. Clear, pure Dreamcastle beside China Maid would emphasize China Maid's coarseness of color and texture. Nevertheless China Maid is a worthy garden iris, a very good friend of magenta Inspiration and of Mulberry Rose and Miss California, in fact cheerfully cordial to nearly anything placed near it—and a top doer.

Some plicatas and onco-breds at a distance give the effect of blends and are also most beautiful when seen individually and in arrangements where their delicate patterning can be observed like etchings, at close range. Ah, for just one bloom on Butterfly Wings at Flower Show time!

Color "mistakes" where names and flowers are mis-matched, can sometimes save the day in a garden, by breaking up a too repetitious or trite a color scheme or by introducing a surprise. Such a whimsical surprise occurred one year in Mrs. Blake's garden when "Darkest Africa" bloomed purest white. (Mrs. Blake notes that three-year-olds are the most energetic label collectors.)

Descriptive Phrases Run the Gamut

The foregoing may be of some use to garden makers but hardly to the iris hybridizers whose interest centers in new colors and patterns in the flower itself, the effort to correctly classify its color for the check list and the supreme effort to describe it for introduction to the trade in language calculated to stimulate a desire to possess. It is the observation of this writer that the more diffused, blotched, dusted, overlaid and veined the subject, the greater the scope of the describer who, misled by sheen and texture, describes the color with sometimes three or four references to Maerz & Paul or Ridgway, summing up in that classic (of the catalogs) phrase "skillfully and artistically blended."

I have been impressed by Mrs. Gwendolyn Anley, an English irisarian, as both irisarian and gardener. I know her only through her writing (her book on irises and her article on color in the 1950 *Iris Year Book*) where I continually come upon ideas I had thought my own, opinion shared—a few of which might be classed as prejudices. I find her aversion to white in a mixed color planting much like mine, excepting

that I see white as the finest foil for clear colors. She would exclude the deeper yellows. I would use them in precious segregated bits of gold, used like highlights in a painting, or where wanted in quantity, planted apart, in company with lots of white and the whole range of lighter clear yellows for a fine dramatic effect.

Mrs. Anley does not need to point out her collateral descent from Sir Joshua Reynolds, since artistic talent is not supposed to be passed down, even by direct descent. Thrice-great-Uncle Joshua would surely applaud Mrs. Anley's understanding of color and her use of the iris color palette. I have never read anyone who seemed to understand the nature and needs of the iris as fully as she. And why have I never seen in any American publication any account of the preparation of irises for packing to send to flower shows? I shall try Mrs. Anley's little paper bags pinned on the buds, even try holding reluctant buds over hot water to speed their opening, and report. Perhaps more American Irises can go to Flower Shows.

Having been led completely away from my subject by the fascinating Mrs. Anley, I will return and conclude.

Discard color rules. They are only applications of the principles to specific problems, and apply, for us, only if the problem is identical. If we understand the principles we don't need rules. If we don't, we'd better not depend on them. They will let us down. But let's hang on to the fundamentals and make our own mistakes, which also serve to endear our gardens to us, and at the same time let us stay on the critical alert. Fortunately for us, irises need frequent moving, and so the ordeal of each resetting should be an annual opportunity and a challenge.

INTRODUCING!!

JACK FROST, H. C. '49 \$15.00 net

Snow Flurry X (Gloriole X Shining Waters) White, Crisp, Thick! Falls Horizontal. Standards domed. Ruffled Blooms well spaced. 37 in. Clean foliage, good increase.

AMITY, H. M. '47 \$5.00

(Sensation X Los Angeles) X (Wambliska X San Francisco) A "FANCY," white brushed lavender blue. Good form, perfect garden habits. See Bull. 115, page 13.

Introduced and Listed by Fairmount Gardens

BAY STATE, H. C. '46, H. M. '49 \$10.00

MRS. PRESTON E. COREY

707 Pearl St., Reading, Mass.

TERMS: Cash with order.

IN MEMORIAM—Mrs. Silas B. Waters

Mrs. Silas B. Waters, nationally known authority on flowers and shrubs, and clubwoman of wide interest died March 24, 1951, at Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Her home, with its magnificent gardens, at 2005 Edgecliff Point, Walnut Hills, overlooking the Ohio River, was known to flower lovers from all sections of the country. Particularly notable was her cultivation of iris. Much of her technique for growing plants in her gardens she learned in the Swiss mountains while traveling abroad.

Mrs. Waters also had given much time to developing of school and community gardens and, when president of the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, led a movement for the planting of 250,000 trees in an area of southeastern Ohio.

She served a number of terms as president of the Federated Garden Clubs of Cincinnati and vicinity and her efforts and democratic ideas are credited for much of the success of the garden club movement in that locality. She also was one of the founders of the Cincinnati Peony, Iris and Rose Society, now the Greater Cincinnati Rose Society.

She had served as vice-president of the Ohio Council of Roadside Improvement, had been regional vice-president of the American Iris Society. The iris, Mrs. Silas B. Waters, was named in her honor.

IN MEMORIAM—Clara Howard Clevenger

On Sunday, March 25, Mrs. Clara Howard Clevenger, wife of Dr. Lewis Clevenger died of a heart attack at her home in Kirksville, Missouri. Mrs. Clevenger was Professor of Economics at the Northeast Missouri State Teachers College. She had been on the faculty since 1921. Born in Falcon, Tennessee, she was a graduate of the Southern Illinois Normal School at Carbondale. She received a Ph.D. degree at the University of Chicago and an M.A. degree in Sociology from Leland Stanford University with a major in Economics and a minor in Rural Sociology.

She was married to Dr. Clevenger in 1928. In addition to teaching at the State College, she was very active in various school activities. This did not prevent her from developing several hobbies, chief of which was art needlework and the culture and artistic arrangement of flowers. Mrs. Clevenger had been a member of the AIS for many years and assisted her husband in his work as a breeder and introducer of new iris varieties.

A Visit to Lafayette

HAROLD W. KNOWLTON, (Mass.)

This past spring Mrs. Knowlton and I made a long-planned automobile trip to the "deep South" and the annual meeting of the Society for Louisiana Iris at Lafayette, Louisiana. For ten years a group of the Washington hybrids have been growing in our garden in Massachusetts.

They are perfectly hardy, and we have wanted to see the Louisiana iris growing in their native swamps. We travelled down the east coast where we saw many of the famous azalea gardens at the height of bloom. Crossing over by the Gulf Coast we had a short stay at New Orleans. Leaving that city on Friday, April 6, we crossed the Mississippi River by the Huey Long bridge and drove through the bayou country via Morgan City, New Iberia, a side trip to Avery Island to see the egrets, arriving at Lafayette and the hotel Evangeline in late afternoon. All along the road we saw great clumps of the tall blue *giganticaerulea* iris and the white spider lilies (*Hymenocallis*) in full bloom.

That evening was the hilarious and friendly informal supper at the Poor Boy's Riverside Inn, where we met Prof. Nelson and many other members of the society.

The next day in company with Dr. Dozier we made an early morning call at the home of the Nelsons where Mrs. Nelson served us morning coffee and where we saw Ike's swamp garden with Cherry Bounce, his smooth mahogany red self, and others in bloom. Then came the Symposium on Iris Culture at Horticulture Farm under the capable leadership of Mrs. Hazel Parks. From that discussion I gathered that Louisiana iris can be grown under normal garden conditions and that manures, composts, and humus of all sorts may be used in unlimited quantities. The iris like a lot of water in the blooming season. If you have a bog, so much the better, but it is not necessary if you give the iris rich soil and a liberal use of the garden hose.

Noontime found us enjoying the hospitality of the Ray Cornays at a delicious dinner, and afterwards they took us to see the land on high ground which they are landscaping for a future home.

Afterwards we walked around the famous Cypress Lake which is on the campus of the Southwestern Louisiana Institute. It is a very scenic spot, the old buttressed cypress trees growing up out of the water and the edges ornamented by groups of Louisiana iris in full bloom, gathered and planted under the direction of Mrs. Cornay.

The flower show in the Blackburn Coliseum occupied the balance of the afternoon. There Prof. Nelson, Marie Caillet, and their assistants, including the lovely young ladies from his college classes, had staged a perfect replica of an old Cajan trapper's hut. Around it was an old

fence that was a hundred years old. In front was a bayou on the edge of which was drawn up an old pirogue. Everywhere about the house were the furnishings of an old Cajan house, with the rocking chair on the front porch, the traps and skins hanging on the wall. It was a very realistic piece of work and every board had a weather-beaten appearance. This was the setting for the iris which were growing in irregular gardens in a very natural manner. The iris were numbered and everyone was given a ballot to fill out with the favorites in the various color classes. Coffee was served by the ladies, and altogether we had a most interesting and pleasant afternoon.

The winners in the various classes were as follows:—

Best iris in the show—Helen Smith—a smooth yellow exhibited by Mrs. E. P. Arceneaux.

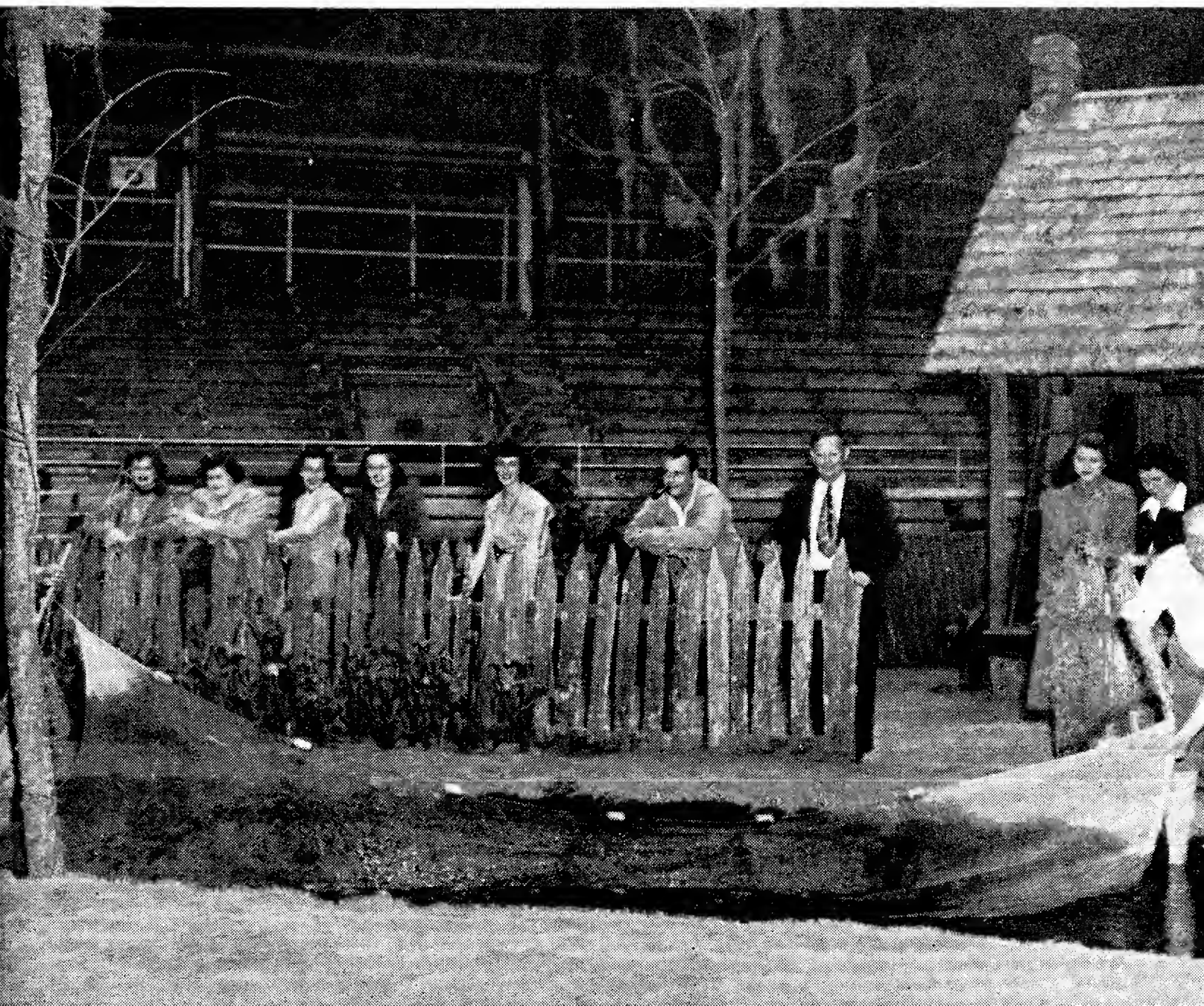
COLOR CLASSES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Color Class</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Cameron White	White	Mrs. Maple Hughes
No. 2 Blue	Blue	Mrs. G. W. Holleyman
Peggy Mac	Lavender to purple	Mr. Charles Army
Signal Flash	Pink to magenta	W. B. MacMillan
Cherry Bounce	Red to Terra cotta	Dan Tucker
Helen Smith	Yellow to buff	Mrs. E. P. Arceneaux
Test garden seedling	Bicolor	G. P. Hamner

Among those that I especially noted were Elizabeth the Queen, a light lavender self with a linear yellow signal patch; Edith Dupre, a deep yellow with a heavy red brown overlay; Helen Smith, the cream yellow with a deeper streak down the center which was adjudged the best bloom in the show; Aline Morton, a light yellow self with greenish style arms; and a gorgeous large bloom of Bayou Sunset, easily one of the most imposing blooms in the show, a deep lavender with broad orange signal.

That evening came the banquet at the Evangeline Hotel, presided over by Claude Davis, the president of the society and honored by the presence of Dr. Joel L. Fletcher, president of the Southwestern Louisiana Institute. W. B. MacMillan was toastmaster, which I understand is standard practice. Awards were given to the show prize winners, and Cajan anecdotes and music completed a very full day.

Sunday morning we drove to Abbeville, the home of the “Abbeville reds” and the extensive garden of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. MacMillan. It was a lovely morning and many others were already there when we arrived. Two boys were there with hip boots ready to escort venturesome persons into the swamp. But we became so busy looking over the iris in the garden under the guidance of “Mac” and “Peggy Mac” that we had no time for swamps, even if we had had the inclination to go. Chief among Mr. Mac’s productions are the Bayou Sunset group—Bayou Sunset (which received the Mary Swords Debaillon Award two



Kibitzers chuckle as Ike Nelson, left, and Harold Knowlton, right, seine for Crawfish.

years ago) and its sister seedlings—Autumn Lights, Aurora Borealis, Blue Sunset and Little Sunset. There I saw Miss Dormon's Violet Ray, a deep violet; Joe Mac, a deep velvety purple with a yellow signal; Arabi Blue, a clear light blue self; Signal Flash, deep red purple; and Mac's new production, called Accents Dark, a rich velvety purple self. Seedlings are appearing in rose shades and there were whites in various forms. An old rose called "Old Rose #1" was a lovely flower with a darker spot around the narrow yellow signal patch and with very round "falls." I believe the experts refer to petals and sepals instead of standards and falls.

Sunday dinner with the MacMillans added the final touch to a very pleasant morning. Afterwards we drove to St. Martinsville where we duly inspected the Evangeline church and grave, returning across country to Broussard and Lafayette. That evening, at the close of the

show, we returned to the Coliseum where Calvin Blue took pictures of the show and those who arranged it. Ike invited me to inspect the iron hinges to one of the shutters in the Cajan house, when a hand shot out from behind the red and white window curtain with a glass of refreshing liquid. The evening ended, as the meeting had begun, in hilarity and good fellowship. They are a grand group of people and we shall look forward to another visit with them. We are glad to be members of the Society for Louisiana Iris.

* * * * *

HOW CHEAP CAN A GOOD IRIS GET?

LILA McCOMBS, (Calif.)

Does it not sometimes seem that our national life is built of superlatives? That if anything should stop the flow of words used in advertising, our whole economy would collapse without the framework of super superlatives which scaffolds big business' mighty edifice of progress? Scientific advertising colors every walk of life. The gardener dreams and plans in superlatives. The nursery catalogs picture the dreams come true. Unfortunately the newest, the best, the biggest, are also, superlative in price. And, oftentimes, the garden budget demands that we drop a project altogether, unless willing to consider older and cheaper varieties, which, often as not, have already proven their worth without benefit of patent number and advertising campaign.

Especially is this true of bearded irises, which annually decrease in price as stock increases. There are many fine irises in commerce at a reasonable price, but, unless the customer knows how to select them he is sure to be as disappointed as I was in my first iris venture, when I planted one hundred and seventy-two varieties, with no knowledge of the qualities which make an iris great. Some of these are still considered indispensable, but many were discarded after their first blooming. Such a disheartening waste of time and money can be avoided by consideration of a few facts pertinent to the selection of any nursery stock.

The most important point to remember is to steer clear of cut-rate nurseries and those who advertise fabulous bargains in collections. Choose from the better nurseries who have built an enviable reputation

Feature of the Lafayette Show was a genuine Cajan cabin complete with picket fence and bamboo background. Yuccas and native Louisiana iris border the miniature bayou on which floats a genuine pirogue loaded with Spanish moss.





through the years. They stand behind their products, guarantee them to be true to name, and, in the case of bearded irises, often, even guarantee them to grow in your garden. You will also find that the established nurseries set a standard price. They are usually unbelievably generous with gift plants, too. I have actually received, in extras, half as much as the value of my entire order, from one of our finest west coast firms. This same nursery, I notice, lists several twenty-year-old irises, and one dating back as far as 1925. These remain on their list solely because of their outstanding qualities as all these reliable plantsmen are quick to drop any which fail to maintain a high standard of excellence.

Experience of Others Potent Force

Their descriptions may be taken literally, if one knows how to interpret them. If the blossom is praised as having a wide, clean haft, broad falls, and roundly domed, closed standards with a strong midrib, then you may be sure of a purist's flower in form. Notice mention of substance, height, dependability of performance, hardiness, if that is important to your locality. Our favorite nurserymen always give originator's name, date of introduction, and awards received. All this information varies in importance to your individual requirements, but it is there as an extra service to you. Read it. You will profit by it.

When one of the largest nurseries on the west coast makes the statement in its catalog, that it has sold more rhizomes of Treasure Island than any other iris it has ever listed, hundreds of other amateur gardeners decide that it must be a very good iris, indeed, and its popularity continues unabated. Because the successful, personal experience of other gardeners is a potent force in the continued demand for any variety of nursery product, perhaps, brief mention of a few of my own favorites may serve to make selection easier for those gardeners interested in the less expensive iris personalities.

Allumeuse is a little hard to find now, but I think it is still worth while for its very late blooming season, and for its coloring of blue and mahogany-red, which is almost unique. Amigo's pansy personality holds all its old admirers and makes new ones every blooming season. I'm glad its short stature makes planting close to a path edge necessary; that is imperative, anyway, for fullest enjoyment of its velvet flowers.

Angelus is still one of my own favorites, and I always look forward eagerly to its very late blossoming. Its pearly-pink is exquisitely iridescent and it smells exactly like root beer. Silvery blue Anitra looks much more fragile than it really is. Its blue is the color of distance and very effective in endless combinations. Arctic, which claims the dimpled and delicately feminine Birchbark as one of its parents, is near perfect in

plant and flower. Tall, vigorous, prolific, its huge blossom is warm white with a golden heart. The gardener who wants cut flowers for the house won't mind because Brunhilde bunches. Its ruffled jabot of cobalt blue becomes an effective focal point in arrangements.

Bronzino is an old classic, its standards the bright copper of a new penny, its falls having the burnished sheen of an old one. Although not classed as remontant it usually blooms in December in mild climates. Buttercup Lane is a treasure for a path edge, its brilliance and clarity of color, from its parent, Golden Hind, is still further intensified by a mammoth orange beard.

Christabel continues to rate as a very smooth red. Its color, fragrance, and vigor combine to form a truly great garden iris. City of Lincoln still wears the crown as king of the variegatas. Big, bold, and bright, it is slightly shocking in its magnificence of flashy color contrast. Texture of velvet, color of fine wine characterize the rich dark-centered self so freely produced by Claret Velvet. Damerine, domed and flaring, of smooth, deep red, is always very early in my garden. Destiny is very late. Its rich, dark flower is enlivened by an immense orange beard.

Easter Morn is like a breath from the Orient. Its exotic scent is as fragrant as its nun-like beauty is chaste. The green-gold glow which invests Elsa Sass with its cool serenity, also gives it the name of "lemonade iris." Fair Elaine's classic loveliness of form and color assure it of a place in our gardens for generations to come. Golden Majesty's brilliant, sunfast color and modern design mark it as one of the finest cheap yellows. Considered by many to be Dr. Gage's finest introduction, huge, ruffled Gloriole sparkles with frosty, crystal-dust. Icy Blue is another very fine light blue, crisply tailored in contrast to Gloriole's graceful opulence. It is extremely tall and appreciates a little high shade. Indian Hill's rich ovals of true purple are borne profusely until late in the season.

Fine Irises from French Fancier

Delectable combination of milk chocolate and bitter chocolate, velvet texture, low stature, make Louvois a favorite of mine. Like the foregoing Louvois, Marquita, whose unique coloring adds novelty to any planting, is, also, a creation of the French master, Cayeux. The round, ice-crisp standards are warm ivory and the falls are rose-striped like a peppermint stick. Matterhorn's snowy purity extends to its immaculate haft and beard. A fine flower. Fragrant, too.

Miss California, the color plates notwithstanding, is a lilac-pink, not a true rose-pink. It is desirable, nevertheless, and is of unusually tall, vigorous growth, soon making a fine clump. Missouri still holds the popularity which won it irisdom's highest award fourteen years

ago. Its big blossoms of clear blue are better for afternoon shade. Perfectly named, Prince of Orange is a rich, glowing color with a particularly beautiful bud.

Siegfried's enormous long flower has a charming elegance in keeping with its languid pose. It always goosenecks in my garden, but its huge blossom is so beautifully designed and so late that I wouldn't like to be without it. A good cream iris can be both foil and peacemaker. Snogualmie is such an iris. Of flawless symmetry and heavy substance, it is incredibly profuse in flower. Like Siegfried, Tiffany is another yellow ground plicata, but there the resemblance ends. Tiffany's long falls are ruffled and hang in folds. It is a weird, dark, magnificent thing and always attracts much attention.

Despite the new introductions no other amoena can approach Wabash for sparkling clarity of contrast. Its standards are snow-white, as is the border around the true purple of the velvet falls. Westpoint's fine flowers, indigo-blue, with smooth brown epaulets, sometimes continue to open as late as July, here in the sunny San Joaquin valley. There are very few nurseries which do not list the venerable Wm. Mohr. Introduced in 1925, it is still unique and as cheap as an iris can get.

None of these irises will cost more than fifty cents during the 1951 selling season. Most will sell for less and all will be a credit to your garden.

JAPANESE IRIS

New strain of American origin. 1951
list available after blooming season
offering latest development.

W. A. Payne

R. R. 3, TERRE HAUTE, IND.

VARIETAL COMMENTS

MRS. J. J. LICINI, (Nevada)

ADORNMENT (Milliken)—Rich violet with a blue beard.

ARCADIA BUTTERCUP (Milliken)—Lovely golden yellow. Petals very wavy, falls flaring.

AUTUMN LEAF (Milliken)—Tall well formed iris. Blended golden tan to warm brown.

BLACK BANNER (Nichols)—Larger than Black Forest. Standards lighter, lighter at the haft, orange beard.

BLACK FOREST (Schreiner)—Small flowered, short and very dark. Dark beard and haft.

CANYON SHADOWS (Milliken)—If you have ever seen a red rock canyon with the dark violet shadows of sunset laying over it, you have seen the color of this one. A color not to be forgotten. Domed, wavy standards, large rounded falls with a deep violet signal patch, shading into the warm red over-all coloring.

CASA MORENO (DeForest)—Large flowered, coppery brown. Seems to be burnished where the sun hits it. Broad, drooping falls 4 to 5 inches long. Withstands our strong desert winds.

CHANTILLY (D. Hall)—Very pale orchid. Unusual form. Standards fluted at edges, falls very crimped and ruffled at the very ends.

CHERIE (D. Hall)—Ruffled, pale pink. Tangerine beard.

CURTAIN CALL (Milliken)—A lighter colored Mulberry Rose. Great garden value.

DEEP VELVET (Salbach)—Dark wine purple. Lovely color. Bronze beard.

DESERT SAND (Milliken)—A very clean buff. Flaring falls, medium sized flower. Name very descriptive. A lovely.

DIXIE BELLE (Milliken)—Immense, very ruffled white with a golden throat.

DREAM GIRL (D. Hall)—Small cramped looking tangerine bearded pink. Not a pretty specimen, but a true, pure pink, both in bud and flower.

DUSTY ROSE (Milliken)—Name is very descriptive of color. Nicely formed. Orange beard.

FANTASY (D. Hall)—Orchid pink. Tangerine beard. Ruffled slightly open standards, lightly ruffled, rounded falls.

FORT KNOX (Milliken)—Large flowered light yellow. Everyone that sees this one wants it. Mrs. Rockwell won "Best Iris Spike" at our local flower show this spring with this one. Mr. Milliken tells me it also won "Best of Show" at Plummer Park this year. Listed as tender, but withstood 12 above with no protection whatever with no effects in

my garden. Mr. Muhlestein of Provo, Utah, does not list it as tender in his catalog; as it is considerable colder in Provo, this leads me to wonder just how tender this beauty really is.

GOLDEN RUFFLES (Taylor)—Ruffled, golden beauty. Lives up to expectations.

GOLD SOVEREIGN (Whiting)—Beautiful, ruffled golden flower.

GRADUATION BALL (Milliken)—Purest pale pink. Tangerine beard. Good form, broad falls.

GYPSY BARON (Schreiner)—Dark purple plicata.

IVORY CHARM (Whiting)—A golden throated ivory charm. Ruffled standards, long drooping wavy falls. Excellent substance.

LADY MOHR (Salbach)—This pale greyish mauve, overlaid with chartreuse does grow on one. Huge flower, small foliage.

LARKSONG (Nies)—Rich yellow falls, creamy standards and styles. Frilled edges. Different. Spuria.

MASTER CHARLES (Williamson)—Well known favorite. Wonderful substance.

MELLOWGLOW (Whiting)—Rose, gold and apricot blend. Lovely form.

MICHILLINDA (Milliken)—Very ruffled plicata. Pale pink ground with rose stitching. Outstanding plicata.

MOHR BEAUTY (Milliken)—A yellow Mohr. White signal patch. Large flower, small stalk and foliage.

OYEZ (C. G. White)—Small flower. Light ground, heavily veined with wine-purple. Wine purple signal patch. Standards quite open to disclose beautiful burnt orange styles, overlaid with lavender. What an arrangement this would make!

PINK CAMEO (O. Fay)—Clean pale pink. Tangerine beard. Wonderful substance.

QUIET HOUR (Milliken)—Buff standards, falls overlaid with old rose. Golden beard, slightly ruffled. Different.

RAVEN WING (Milliken)—A new black. Largest flowered and tallest I have seen in this color class.

RED VALOR (Nichols)—Hybridizers have a long way to go to improve on this old but lovely red.

ROCKET (Whiting)—Orange with russet overlay.

ROSE GOLD (Milliken)—A blend of gold and old rose. Falls flaring.

RUSSET FLAME (Milliken)—Deep gold, solidly overlaid with russet brown veining. An interesting spuria.

SABLE (P. Cook)—Favorite dark purple.

SOLID MAHOGANY (J. Sass)—Rich, red brown. Good form and substance.

SPINDRIFT (Loomis)—A muddy pink. Coarse venation at the haft, but a good breeder. Five seed pods on one stalk this year.

SPRING ROMANCE (Milliken)—Simply huge, heavy ruffled pale yellow.



Mrs. C. K. Rand, Alexandria, Mrs. John Kerper, Pineville and Mrs. Whitfield Jack, Shreveport, enjoy the Dickinson garden.

Deep yellow at the haft.

SPRING SUNSHINE (Milliken)—Huge, sparkling pale yellow. Heavily ruffled. Tender.

SPUN GOLD (Slutzbeck)—I have seen this velvety yellow maligned in the pages of the iris manual. No one could ask for a better performer here. Tall heavy stalks, broad vigorous foliage, prolific multiplier and heavy bloomer. Wonderful seed bearer. At present I have a seed pod on

Spun Gold that my better half refers to as the "Watermelon" to give you an idea of its size.

STARDOM (D. Hall)—Blended reddish tan. Domed standards heavily ruffled. Broad, drooping falls.

TEA ROSE (Whiting)—Rose and gold blend.

VENETIAN RED (Milliken)—Color is mouth watering. Warm glowing red. Cinnamon beard. Standards wavy, falls slightly flaring.

WADI ZEM-ZEM (Milliken)—Large creamy yellow. Spuria.

WHITE HERON (Milliken)—Huge white with yellow signal patch. Lovely lovely. Superb spuria.

YARKAND (C. G. White)—Lilac standards heavily veined with dark purple. Falls so heavily veined as to appear solid dark purple at first glance. Exotic.

ZANTHA (O. Fay)—Large, golden yellow. Horizontally flaring falls.

NEW ASSOCIATE REGISTRAR AND ASSOCIATE RECORDER APPOINTED

In the past several months, our Registrar, Mr. Robert E. Allen, has been burdened with excessive detail work incident to his many activities. In addition to being the Registrar for the AIS, he has also conducted our Symposium, served on the Awards Committee and the Scientific Committee. Closely paralleling his work in the AIS, Mr. Allen was recently named as Director of The Hemerocallis Society, and as a member of the Constitutional Committee was instrumental in the reorganization of that group.

These operations, together with projects of various kinds for other plant societies, have proven to be more than one man could attend to, and consequently as President of the AIS I take great pleasure in announcing that in the future we will be able to lighten the burden incident to Mr. Allen's duties as Registrar. Mrs. George D. Robinson, Regional Vice-President in Region 6 and Mrs. Walter Colquitt, formerly Assistant to Mr. Charles E. F. Gersdorff, have graciously volunteered to assist Mr. Allen. Mrs. Robinson will serve as Associate Registrar and Mrs. Colquitt will act in the capacity of Associate Recorder of Introductions.

The Society is to be congratulated upon securing the services of two such outstanding personalities as Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Colquitt. I sincerely hope that the membership of this Society will render to Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Colquitt the utmost in co-operation in the furtherance of their duties.—GUY ROGERS, *President*

Iris Evaluation

DAVID F. JOHNSON, (N.J.)

Through the year I mull the problems of iris culture and iris. So many things should have attention and correction. At times I must talk to someone about it and the editor being a prime target, these expressions go to him in the hope he does not think it impertinent that I pluck him by the sleeve to hear my story. There must be answers to some of the things I need to know; likewise ways and means of putting these answers into practical application.

Yardstick Needed

The most urgent of the many needs is for a yardstick of iris values. We need something by which we can know which is good, which is better and which is best; what iris has most of the qualities we want, not a compromise of all qualities for everywhere but supreme for us in our own garden. This is a problem that has vexed us all and will continue to trouble until we act sensibly. I am sure many others have sensed these needs or at least would profit by possession of a measuring stick of iris worth.

It is regrettable, and unnecessary, that there should be so much uncertainty and difference of opinion as to the relative merits of varieties. This may be planned strategy heaped on the real reason for the conflict and there is a real difference even of a given variety when reported from different parts of the country. A variety may be tops in New Jersey and a dismal failure in California or vice versa and by present procedure we have not only the combined average of the two but of all other places and conditions thrown in for complete confusion so that it represents nothing anywhere; too high for California and too low for New Jersey and wrong everywhere else. Surely there is a workable formula for presenting the true values in conformity with results in different places. If there is a difference of excellence or lack of it, it is a seeable difference and that can be stated in plain words.

Something can and should be done and I am sure there are capable men and women in the society that are willing and eager to do this much needed work, and further, that all would approve and appreciate the order and understanding brought to this important requirement of iris culture, once it becomes available.

New Workable Setup Needed

Permanent usable rating values cannot be formulated under present ideas of iris appraisal, a workable set-up must be provided. There must be established Plant Zones, areas where season and climate is of a uni-

form or at least similar pattern. This would be a disregard of present political Regions (iris do not recognize politics) for the same growth conditions prevail beyond their boundaries and parts now included in them are entirely different and belong elsewhere. These Plant Zones could be determined from available climatic data and accumulated knowledge of iris culture from the various localities. Within such Zones yearly variations would still be natural just as there are variations in a garden from year to year, but as for the garden so for the Zone there would be an average and that is the foundation on which a standard of Performance and Perfection must be built.

There are some ten principal factors to be considered in the perfection and performance of an iris. Any variety that is deficient in some—even one—of these ten factors must be set down from the top level according to the number and severity of the faults. The ideal aim in Iris Breeding being to bring to one, excellence in all the ten factors we deem necessary to the ultimate in iris. It should be set at a height that is possible of attainment yet beyond what has already been achieved. Example: Few would want Wabash if they could have, at the same price, an almost identical variety with ten inch blossoms, that would be perfection for size, one of the ten factors, the other nine could be improved in like degree. Recognition of such excellence would mean that a variety lacking such size would necessarily be inferior—it could excell in other factors and rate higher than the large one.

Blended Rating Worthless

The mere total sum of all the factors rated can never be of much help in choosing the best, only a general designation of worth. High and low scoring factors of a variety blended into a rating of say .88 means nothing unless we know how that score was arrived at, why it was not higher or lower and what factors were good and what were poor. In the garden a variety may be excellent in the factor that I deem most important and a failure in some factor that I do not care anything about. This latter factor may be the very one you stress above all others, but it still rates .88 for the guidance of all of us. It is plain you and I would not select the same variety if we knew the rating of all its qualities, but we do not even have a total rating to guide us now. For this big reason, the rating, to mean anything must be stated by the several factors separately. The beginner, and others, can then select with certainty the varieties that have the values they want most. We go to great lengths for satisfaction in our iris work, why neglect the most important step?

Once this evaluation has been completed for a variety it would stand for all time and there would be no need to rerate it as the hundreds of varieties are now loosely rerated by 400 judges yearly, with temporary

and shifting appraisal of values as if its qualities changed up and down from year to year. A variety will be as good next year and ten years hence as it is today or was last year. It is just as good, no better and no worse and if a new variety does not score higher it should not be set above the older one. With proper ratings available we could appraise not only the older varieties, which may be the biggest value for the money, but we could know how much better or worse a new introduction really is and what progress is being or has been made in the iris world.

Growers Judgment Most Important

Many of the ten factors that make an iris great can be rated by count or measurement (height, size, number of buds, etc., etc.,) and presents no difficulty. The Crux would be in the other factors (form, substance, color etc., etc.) where good judgment, keen observation and extended intimacy with the growing plants is necessary and the best of such judgment is competent only for a local area or at most a well restricted zone. It is folly for a grower from Vermont to judge iris in Arizona after one sunny hour's observation there. No one is qualified to judge an iris unless they know all those hidden values that are not apparent on a flower stalk on a calm clear day but are necessary to a successful and dependable flower. Many of our iris growers have these qualifications and have applied them to varieties they grow but perhaps have never set them down on paper as definite usable data for others to apply. Their combined wisdom expressed as an average could not be successfully challenged. It might be helpful to use exceptional factors of certain varieties as models or examples at an agreed-to rating value. Examples: Azure Skies might be accepted as rating say .94 for form of a low growing variety, such horizontal fall on a fifty-inch stalk would be a decided defect. Nearly all of the ten factors required for a Standard of Perfection and Performance can be found as a celebrated character in various present varieties.

Reliable rating cannot be done by vote of the membership nor by clash of hundreds of judges and experts. It would be futile to rely on the rules used in current judging that results in the popularity poll where each makes his own rules and scale of values without regard for opinion of others. It would have to be the crystalized conclusion of a committee of three appointed to the task. Three that were in sympathy with the project and without personal idiosyncrasies to impose on the rest of us. They would each work up a tentative schedule of values, after consultation with experts and amateurs who might have ideas to contribute. Then by meditation, argument and voting they would merge the three reports into a final schedule. I am sure everyone sincerely interested in orderliness and understanding would be willing to accept and abide, and profit, by that result.

Average Zone Evaluation Needed

One evaluation of a variety, no matter how competently performed, cannot be accepted as a dependable index to performance or perfection. The Official rating must be the average tabulation of a number of evaluations from different parts of the zone, all agreed to the same scale of values for each factor and scores reported by each evaluator would be ratings for a period of two or three seasons of a selected clump, not a variety in general, in each garden where ratings are made. The task would be monumental at the start but once the accumulated mass were reduced to a rated value the work would consist merely of appraising the yearly introductions.

These twenty or thirty ratings, averaged would give a close approximation of how a variety would consistently perform in that zone. Needless to say this rating of a variety would differ from the same variety in another zone, which is proper and as it should be for all varieties do not perform alike everywhere. In time this record would give valuable data on what varieties do best in a given locality and which should not be planted there. It is a well known fact that some varieties are unexcelled in certain localities, but from aspersions are not regarded at true value even there because they have been rated low by poor performance elsewhere.

This setting up of a Standard of Perfection and Performance and the operation of it would have to be a new project, not one of the old ones twisted to a new purpose and it would have to be free of decadent protocol and etiquette that often nullifies a fresh start.

The present set-up of Judges, Symposium, Awards and Regional Division would continue for those who want most of all what most of the others want, and for whatever other good it may produce.

THE NUTMEGGERS ORGANIZE

MRS. CHARLES I. STEPHENSON, (Conn.)

A small but enthusiastic group of Connecticut members of Region I have been meeting each month since January, 1951. An effort was made to contact all members of the A.I.S. who live in Connecticut. Five new members have joined the Society since the group was organized.

The "Nutmeggers" have varied interests. One couple is raising Louisiana iris; four are interested in dwarfs, two of whom are hybridizing them. One of the latter lived on the desert for a time. He also raises "fussy" species. Two members received an A.M. for the best purple of its time. There are four hybridizers of tall bearded iris, one of whom is working with pogo-cyclus crosses. This lady boasts a husband with professional rating as a photographer, although he prefers to remain

in the amateur category. The Kelloggs, Grace and Willard, already known for their introductions, are members of the group. Still another member is interested in marsh iris. One of the new members is compiling a record of blooming dates in and around New Haven.

The meetings have been informal. The programs have included a showing of slides, a talk on Louisiana iris, discussions on hybridizing and growing seedlings, an exchange of views on the offerings of the new catalogues, and varietal comments.

At each meeting a choice iris has been offered as a door-prize. The first was Bay State, presented by Mrs. Corey, our regional vice-president. The others were Orange Gem, Master Charles, and Cristata Alba given by members of the group.

The "Nutmeggers" received excellent publicity in a radio broadcast in which the chairman was interviewed on a state radio program.

The chief project of the group as a whole is the hope of re-establishing the Iris Garden which was formerly a part of the Marsh Botanical Garden of Yale University. The Garden was at one time a member of the A.I.S. and was a test garden. However, from lack of activity, it became just a display garden.

Because of insufficient funds and scarcity of labor, the Iris Garden gradually declined, until now there is danger of its being entirely discontinued. The Connecticut Iris Group would like to save the best of what remains in the Iris Garden. The collection dates back many years and is an important record of the march of hybridizing. The group would like to add to the collection by donating the best from their own gardens, and so bring the garden up to date with the newer varieties.

These plans have been discussed with the University authorities, and they would like to see the work done. At present there are no available funds and no adequate labor for such a project. So, for the moment, the group can only plan. What they need is an "Angel." If you know of anyone who wants to endow an iris garden, please contact Mrs. Stephenson!

During the iris season, the group plans to make two garden visits. In the autumn, the monthly meetings will resume. Dr. Katherine Heinig, who is on the staff of The Connecticut College for Women, and is doing iris research with Dr. Randolph at Cornell, has promised to come and speak to the group. There will be at least one meeting devoted to photography problems. All Connecticut members of the A.I.S. are welcome, as are any other gardeners especially interested in iris.

PROLIFERATIONS OBSERVED

JOHN L. BRIGGS, (Mich.)

The writer pleads guilty to being a rank amateur, making wide crosses with old standard iris varieties. Being "green," and willing to learn, I read everything in the Bulletin. I was much interested in Eric Nies' article, "Propagation by Proliferation," of July, 1950.

My very first crop of seedlings became two years of age, and fifty-seven of them bloomed, during the 1950 season. In September, I was amazed to find two examples of proliferation on these flower stalks.

I dashed into the house, and reread the article. My neighbor, Neil Schreur, was then enlisted to take pictures with his Graflex.

What conditions encouraged this process, "which in the case of irises, rarely occurs"? Are the following points significant?

My soil is quite heavy, "Fox clay loam." To avoid walking in mud, I had spread straw between two of the seedling rows. There were five rows of seedlings, but the proliferation occurred on opposite sides of this path. The straw served as a mulch, maintained more constant moisture, which may have aided in the process.

The entire bloom was cut from the seedlings as soon as they faded. Flower stalks were left long to hold tags. Half of these flower stalks were still green more than half their length on October 15th. Both



Seedling #33



Seedling #52

examples occurred on stalks so treated. There seemed to be no lessening in the number of rhizome divisions produced.

Seedling No. 33, Indian Hills x Tiffany, bloomed June 4th, height 27 inches. "Blue standards, violet falls, gold beard. Proliferation occurred at node 8 inches above ground and its larger fan grew eight inches high before plantlet was detached and planted in October.

Seedling No. 52, Indian Hills x Gudrun, bloomed June 10th, height 30 inches. "Light blue self with speckles of light; yellow heart, slightly blue at outer edge—good." Proliferation occurred at second node, 14 inches above the ground. It appears to consist of three bulblets, but the central one produced no fan. The largest fan measured three inches when the plantlet was detached and planted.

Let's Find an Easier Way

GEORGE R. BEACH, JR., (Ill.)

Early last June standing in the middle of my iris plantings frustrated and bewildered by the numberless details involved in a hybridizing program, I was struck by one of these flashes of inspiration that from time to time come to all of us—what purpose all this striving to create new beauty and form if one is so weighed down with the details of the effort there is little time to enjoy it.

This introspection fathered a number of ideas whose practicality was immediately tested. These evolved into several simple home-made gadgets and techniques that greatly helped to simplify and systematize some of the many jobs that have to be done about an iris garden at that time of the year. Believing that others are probably beset by the same problem it seemed possible that such efforts in the direction of labor saving might be interesting and helpful to readers of the Bulletin.

All these "kinks," as they are called in the engineering profession, are highly susceptible to further improvement and certainly there is much additional ore to be mined in the way of more and better ways of doing most of the purely routine work in an iris or other type of garden. What follows is offered for what it is worth and in the possibly selfish hope that others will comment on similar developments of their own.

Insofar as this article is concerned, ways, means and methods of planting, fertilizing, spraying and cultivating will be ignored. These phases of iris culture have been adequately and exhaustively covered in several books, and of course by articles in the Bulletin.

Turning first to pollenating, my tweezers and other paraphernalia are forever being mislaid with resultant lost time. A man has too many pockets and they are often hard to get at considering the positions one

gets into gardening. As a first step, a wooden box 10" x 16" x 2" deep was constructed. A piece of strip iron provided the handle. The box was divided into a large catch-all compartment and a section with separators to form 12 individual compartments, each just large enough to hold one of the commonly available aluminum cans that enclose rolls of 35mm photographic film. These cans have many uses and if you are a photographer you will collect a lot of them in no time at all. In this case they are used to hold, transport or store pollen. A china marking pencil is used to identify the contents. These markings are readily removable by wiping with a damp rag or better yet, one moistened with lighter or cleaning fluid.

Fasten a cleat made of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch lumber of any convenient width or length to one of the sides of the box. On the long side drill at least 4 holes $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in diameter and 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ inches or more in depth. These provide a holder for the three pencils (lead, indelible and china) and the pair of tweezers which are essential tools of the trade. You will find it very handy, if to this kit you add a clip board. An 8 x 11 lined pad inserted in the board with an elastic at the bottom to keep the paper from blowing in the wind will provide everything needed to do your on-the-spot recording.

There is no more staggering task facing the week-end gardener than a thousand newly blooming iris seedlings that must be studied and classified as to whether to save or discard, and then record the essential data so that in the relative calm of July, August and September the worthless can be weeded out and destroyed and the promising moved to more permanent beds.

My first approach was painstakingly to list with comments each seedling, but a few hours of this was enough and resulted in the purchase of metal edged tags in two colors. The metal edged tags are a bit more expensive but are preferred to the common type in that their dye seems to be more lasting and they are definitely more durable. Going through your seedling patch each evening, or week-end, if you will attach a red tag to those that seem worth keeping and a green or other color to the worthless, you will find it possible to keep abreast of the paper work without knocking yourself out. Since even the least critical hybridizer will discover but a small percentage of his seedlings worth carrying over another year there will be but a limited number of red tags to record. There is, of course, no purpose in keeping any further account of those that you plan to discard and at your convenience later in the summer you can root out and destroy those carrying the "worthless" tags. Naturally there will be some seedlings which fail to bloom with their fellows. These will be readily identifiable since they have no tags, and appropriate action can be taken.

In this part of the world the time for setting out the new seedlings

has the annoying propensity of practically coinciding with the blooming season. This is a back-breaking job at best, but you will find that some of the irksomeness will be taken out of it if you will take an 8-1/2-foot length of 1" x 4" lumber, and 3 inches in from one end fasten a 3-inch length of 3/4-inch doweling which you have either pointed or rounded at the end away from the board. Place one of these pegs every 8 inches down the length of the board—a total of 13. For durability these should be fastened to the board with screws.

Now you have a seedling peg-board, as handy a gadget as you could wish for. Place it pegs-down on the prepared earth, step on it, lift, and you have your seedling row all lined up and evenly spaced. All that remains is to put the seedlings in, firm the earth around them and move on to the next row.

One final "kink" and I will leave you to your own devices. When setting out seedlings, for me at least, the commercial transplanting hormone powders have more than proved themselves. Save your empty-2-pound coffee cans. Paint them with aluminum paint if you want them to last. Then at transplanting time take four or five of them, partly filled with the hormone solution and dig several batches of seedlings at a time, placing all with the same parentage in a single can where they can soak as you are planting them. By digging four or five groups at once and taking all the cans with you to the new bed you will find you save yourself numberless wearying trips back and forth.

You will discover that once you start to critically examine your garden labor with an eye toward lessening your work and improving your technique that you too will come up with some worthwhile improvements. It can be a fascinating avocation within an avocation.

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Easy Breeze Gardens

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HOW TO PLANT

This crowded clump is overdue for division. Note rhizomes growing over one another in center of clump. Cut foliage back and remove dead material from top of rhizome.

After being dug clump was cleaned with stream from hose. Note that healthy, growing rhizomes circle the clump, while those in center have very few white feeding roots, thus bloomstalks will be in a circle around edge of clump, few in center.



Healthy, growing rhizomes are separated from old bloomstalks. Some prefer "doubles" as in foreground for replanting. The center rootstock contains an extra supply of reserve food on which the two active roots may draw. This insures good first year bloom. Wash rhizomes thoroughly before replanting.

AN IRIS

Before planting a new bed of iris, dig in plant food and cultivate well at least two weeks before roots are set. This allows soil to settle. When ready to plant, dig two slanting holes leaving a dividing ridge in the center. This eliminates air pocket from under rhizome.



Place rhizome directly over center of ridge and spread feeding roots evenly to each side. Since ground underneath has not been disturbed no settling will occur. By spreading roots to either side the plant is securely anchored.

Pull dirt in towards plant from either side. By pressing on top of root, proper planting depth may be regulated. Firm with foot and water well.

(Reprinted from "The Iris—An Ideal Hardy Perennial.")



A New Race of Garden Irises

C. DORMON, (La.)

It would be presumptuous of me to talk to this group about any iris save one—what we may claim as our own Louisiana iris. Let me make it clear though *I. virginica* grows freely in the state, we lay no special claim to it, as it occurs in other regions. And right here I shall put in my oft-repeated plea: PLEASE do not call the entire group “Louisiana hybrids,” any more than you would say “California hybrids.” Only the Creator knows how many species we really have, for they have hybridized so freely that years of patient work will be required to determine which are deserving of specific rank. Simply because of their tendency to cross, it is not safe to lump them all into the category “hybrids.” This could just as well be done with *Malus*, *Phlox*, etc., which have crossed and re-crossed in the wild state.

You know, Louisiana has always insisted on being an individual. Other states have counties, while she has parishes; all others have Common Law, Louisiana, her Code Napoleon; and she has Mardi Gras, Cajans, and lagniappe! So, even in her flora, she must be different. When wild flowers get down to Louisiana, they get bigger and show variations. This is literally true, so much so that at times botanical classification is difficult. Then what could one expect in the iris field? Typically, Louisiana simply took a Gulf wind, some Mississippi River silt, a summer cloud, bayou sunset, and the mystery of dark swamps—and *made* herself an iris! Or rather, a whole glorious company of irises!

It is with almost a shock that one remembers how horticulturists traveled over Europe and Asia in search of new members of this genus, when right at their feet grew the treasures they sought. Even twenty-five years ago, within the corporate limits of New Orleans, there were fields of gay-colored iris. There were many lovely whites and creams, pink and rose shades, a few bright reds, and lavender-blues that covered the scale from “icy-blue” to deepest violet. Alas, this area has now all been filled in and built up. Happily, a few New Orleans gardeners admired them, and moved clumps to their home grounds, thus saving them from extinction.

But the strangest part of the story is that no botanist observed or commented on them, until the coming of Dr. J. K. Small. Audubon was the first person to call one “Louisiana Flag,” and it was thought that he just imagined the dainty rose-pink color to enhance the beauty of that particular bird picture! An English botanist collected and named little rust-red *I. fulva*, and introduced it into England in 1811. It created quite a bit of interest, as its color was new to irisarians. How



CONVENTION VISITORS INSPECT DORMON SEEDLINGS

Left to Right, Clarence Connell, Caroline Dormon, Frances Douglas, W. B. MacMillan, Ellen Wills, Virginia Miller, Peggy MacMillan and Jesse Wills.

strange that no one followed this up, to see what other unusual colors might be found! But not until 1925, when Dr. Small saw some of these irises by chance, did real work begin. He came back in 1926 and several following years, and spent months wading the bogs of South Louisiana, collecting and studying them. Though few botanists now agree with his splitting the group into so many species, it cannot be denied that he did an important work in publicizing these beautiful

flowers, thus giving them to the horticultural world.

There are mysteries in connection with our debutante of the swamps, and here is one. Dr. Small had many beautiful paintings made of the Louisiana irises he had collected and grown, a number of which were printed in *Addisonia*. He told me he received letters from all parts of the world inquiring about them. Yet it is just now—twenty-five years later—that they are coming into their own as garden plants.

Bog Culture Not Indispensable

Probably the greatest deterrent to popular demand for them as garden flowers was the fact that almost everyone thought of them as bog plants only. For many years a few Louisiana "irisiacs" have been experimenting with them, and gradually expanding their efforts. My own Louisianas have always been grown in natural bogs, in the sand hills, so I asked no praise for their horticultural development. I have sent them to others to try out in various soils—and of course I have talked about them all the time! Since I got my first in 1921, near Morgan City, they have been thriving happily near the courses of small streams. In the thirties, Mary Debaillon, who amassed a wonderful collection, began experimenting with them under garden conditions. Even before that, Mrs. Robert Randolph, of Alexandria, had grown them in beds successfully. There were others, too many to name, who had a hand in their gradual development.

A short while before Mrs. Debaillon's death, W. B. MacMillan discovered a whole new field near Abbeville, Louisiana. These enormous rich reds and yellows make up the group now known as the "Abbeville Iris." Three years later, Mr. MacMillan and an enthusiastic group at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, invited those interested in the Louisiana iris to come to Lafayette, for the purpose of forming a society. This organization was named in honor of the late Mrs. Debaillon, and got off to a good start from the first. The yearly meeting is a highly enjoyable affair, and is attended by members from a number of states—although its scope takes in only the one division of the genus—Louisiana iris. It is now affiliated with the A. I. S., and is too well known to need any "boosting."

Now and then another bog was called to the attention of iris, and new colors and forms added. Mrs. Rene Kraemer found one of lively sulphur yellow, on her own farm near Thibodeaux. Since then, she has had beautiful whites, pinks, etc. Quite recently it was discovered that in extreme Southwest Louisiana there are vast fields of tremendous blues and whites. Is it any wonder that we Louisianians are always on tiptoe in blossom-time? We are justly proud of the handsome varieties that

have been collected, some of which were so good they have been named and registered with the A.I.S. Bayou Vermilion and Bon Rouge are red enough to catch the eye in any planting. Wild Swan, Jeune Fille, and Cameron White are big and immaculate-looking. And what could be finer than those Abbeville yellows, Forsythia, Delta Treasure, King's Gold, Reflected Light? One of the finest is Lockett's Luck, a huge but delicate flower of pure flesh-color, with a big wedge-shaped signal-patch.

Some of us were too busy trying to save these marvelous flowers from extinction to give much thought to hybridizing. Lillian Trichel was probably the first to begin meddling with the bees, and she has some fine hybrids to show for her efforts. Now almost every Louisianian who grows them does a little crossing, and some lovely flowers are showing up among the seedlings. We carefully control our crosses these days, but even so, the results are often amazing. For years I have been trying to infuse Abbeville toughness into a shell-pink chance seedling of mine, Dan Debaillon. I have some "toughies," all right, but they are rose, so far. And one was almost black! With their multiple parentage, it is easy to understand how they can throw back to a remote ancestor.

There are too many of these new beauties for me to attempt to name them here. A number of them are being introduced by various dealers, so everyone will have the opportunity of seeing them soon. It is difficult to restrain our enthusiasm when those new seedlings begin to bloom, but we realize that the list of names is already growing long, so we must weed out rigidly before more are registered. Anyhow, you tall bearded iris folk have almost used up the names, and if it were not that we have bayous, Cajans, deltas, etc., we would just have to call them X and Y!

The variation in size of the Louisianas is not the least amazing feature. The flowers measure from 4 to 8 inches, and are borne on stems that range from a few inches to five feet in height. They are unmatched in color, and are full of natural grace. So now hybridizers are beginning to plan for the ideal garden plant—one with branching stems bearing many blossoms, and one that is tough and adaptable. Occasionally one is seen with two long side branches. If this tendency could become fixed, it would be a long step forward.



Clarence Connell, Caroline Dormon, W. B. MacMillan knee deep in a Dormon bog.

A surprising feature not yet mentioned is their cold-resistance. Dr. Small believed that they had traveled slowly downward from the highlands, many of them being lost, no doubt, during the existence of succeeding ice-caps. And it would truly seem that they must have come from a Northern home. They are being successfully grown in New England and Minnesota. They just adapt themselves to the different seasons, and remain almost dormant till spring comes. Here in the South, of course, they put on their biggest growth in the winter. They win admiration everywhere they travel. They are quite happy in Australia, where they are becoming popular. We can't visualize their beginning, nor their end, but meanwhile we like our Louisiana irises just as they are.

IN MEMORIAM—John A. Buneaux

Mr. John A. Buneaux, for a number of years a member of the American Iris Society, passed away at his home in Chicago on November 15, 1950.

Mr. Buneaux was born in Paris, France, on July 10, 1885. He first grew iris in Chicago about thirty-five years ago, the first having been imported, such as Depute Nomblot from Cayeux in France, and Dominion, Cardinal, and Susan Bliss from Bliss in England. To these he added iris secured from growers in the United States and was happy to see them grow and bloom and to study the developments accomplished by the well known hybridizers.

In 1946 Mr. Buneaux registered Sierra Lakes, but did not introduce it due to a similarity with Great Lakes. Since that time he registered Oriental Bazaar, which was introduced in 1948. He also registered Lady Edith, Morning Surprise, and Neptune's Gift, but had not developed sufficient stock for introduction.

His principal aim, expressed in his own words, was medium and light blues with sturdy stalk, four-way branching, and a flower which would withstand the elements.

Mr. Buneaux was an accredited judge for a number of years, in which capacity he was very capable, having been an earnest student of the iris family. His friends will miss his progressive thinking in iris development.—GEORGE G. ZINK, Ind.

Among the Junos

LAURENCE W. NEEL, (Eng.)

One of the most interesting sections of the iris family and certainly one of the least seen is that comprising the "Juno's." Except for iris specialists, these iris appear to be almost unknown to the ordinary gardener, and if he does read of them he thinks they are some exotic species far beyond his capability to grow. Nothing is farther from the truth, for many of the varieties are not difficult, some are quite easy and providing they are left undisturbed, will thrive, increase and bloom year after year. These irises are valuable garden plants, for they fill in the period between the end of iris *Stylosa* blooming, and the flowering of iris *pumila*, the *Regelio-cyclus* and the early intermediates.

The family nearly all come from the Middle East, except for *Iris Alata* which comes from Sicily, North Africa and parts of Spain. A very closely allied species, "*palyestina*" comes from along the Syrian Coast.

As a section the "Juno's" can be divided into two groups, one coming from Asia Minor and North West Persia, and usually called the "Persica" group, and the other from farther east. The Persica group comprises a number of varieties, most of which (and iris *alata*) grow in a very heavy red, limy loam which gets baked hard in the summer and therefore the bulbs ripen well. In England this section is difficult, the bulbs will not ripen properly and most of the various species are quite unobtainable, except by fresh imports each year. However I imagine that these varieties would grow successfully in states along the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains, where the climate is dry, altitude high and where conditions must approximate their natural habitat. Even where crosses have been made between the two groups (*Sindpers* being a good example) the tender characteristics of the "Persica" parent have proved dominant.

The second group (and I think that I am safe in writing that all varieties grown outdoors in England belong to it) comes from Turkestan where the natural soil is light and sandy. The varieties are all quite hardy and given reasonable treatment seem to thrive. The past nine months (July 1950 to April 1951) have been the wettest known in Britain for a century, but my Juno's have been very good this spring and where last year I had one spike, this year I have had three or four.

These irises like lime, and good drainage, and should be planted about 3 inches deep. A protected pocket in a rock garden with a good stone behind to act as background to foliage and flowers; or planted in a shrub border where they can be left undisturbed would be ideal

positions. My own are growing in a sandy border facing due south with a hedge of *Lonicera nitida* behind and the position is very dry in the summer. Each bulb was surrounded with old mortar rubble when first planted.

The Juno's have some outstanding characteristics which make them quite different from other irises. The bulbs, which are quite large, have attached to them a number of thick, fleshy store roots, not unlike those of a scarlet runner bean. If the bulbs have to be moved great care should be taken not to break these, for although such damage does not appear to kill the bulb, it obviously weakens it and does affect flowering the following year. The leaves are set on either side of the stem and the flower buds are formed in the axils of the leaves. The top bud opens first and as the stem lengthens so additional flowers come out. These vary in number with *Bucharica* having six or seven, but most varieties have four or five. The leaf growth before flowering is much like that of a leek. The flower has no proper standards, these being quite insignificant, but the style arms are raised and given the appearance of being standards. The falls instead of a beard have a ridge like a keel down the centre, which is always yellow or golden in color.

Described in some detail, in order of flowering, are a number of varieties which I have growing in my garden. For two months in the spring they give a wealth of bloom, and not only are they unusual but they are beautiful as well. Most of these varieties are said to intercross successfully, and there is undoubtedly scope here for an interesting hybridist. To produce a hardy form of "Sindpers" for example, having the same wonderful turquoise blue colouring, would really be worth working for.

I. *Alata* (The Winged Iris). This member of the Juno section (more fully described in the April edition of the A. I. S. Bulletin No. 121) flowers in October and November and is not hardy except in the most sheltered locality. The foliage is formed early, and is almost certain to suffer damages through winter frost, damp etc., so that the bulbs never ripen properly. It is an ideal subject for pot culture, and after flowering the pot can be stood in a hot, dry place to ripen off the bulbs. The pure lilac mauve flowers are quite large, with an orange keel patch on the falls.

I. *Sindpers* (*sindjarensis* x *persica*). This very fine hybrid raised by Messrs. Van Tubergen of Haarlem, Holland unfortunately is rather more difficult to grow than other species. The tender characteristics of "persica" have been passed on to the child and although fresh bulbs imported each autumn will bloom well the following spring, I have been unable to keep these through to the following year. The colour of the flower is pure turquoise blue, with orange keel markings and green

edges to the falls, and comes into bloom in late February. Perhaps if the plant was to be covered with a glass cloche immediately after flowering and keep dry so as to ripen the bulbs thoroughly it would survive for another year. It is certainly one of the loveliest of the species and worth taking a deal of trouble over.

I. *Sindjarensis*. Soft almost turquoise blue flower with a yellow keel to the falls. Grows about 9 inches high and flowers in late February or early March. Is fully hardy and grows well.

I. *Graberiana*. Light cobalt blue flowers with a yellow keel patch. Grows to a height of about 1 ft. and flowers in early March. This is a new species distinguished from others of the Juno section by the narrow leaves which are not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch broad. The leaves are long, narrow and glossy green and do not overtop the flower stem. The variety has been named after P. L. Graeber, a traveller for Messrs. van Tubergen's of Haarlem, who collected many bulbous plants for them in Tashkent.

I. *Willmottiana alba*. Up to now it has been thought that this is a white form of I. *Willmottiana*, but doubt has been thrown on this classification and it is now thought to be a hybrid between species, although its origin has not yet been traced. The standards are white with no markings. The falls are white with green markings on either side of the yellow centre keel. Height 1 ft. to 15 inches. A very strong growing variety with deep glossy almost blue green foliage.

I. *Magnifica* (previously called I. *Vicaria*). This is the tallest growing species of the Juno section and will reach a height of 2 feet. The flowers are white tinged a delicate blue. The standards have a deeper mauvish blue ridge in the centre. The falls have the yellow patch on the keel, but the underside is a much deeper mauvish blue. Strong foliage.

I. *Bucharica*. Perhaps the best known of the section as it is the variety most commonly grown. Standards are a creamy yellow. Falls cream about the haft, the remainder being orange yellow with black line markings on either side of the centre keel. A prolific grower, 1 ft. to 15 inch in height, with shiny olive green foliage. Flowers in mid April.

I. *Warlsind* (*Warleyensis* x *sindjarensis*). Standards pale blue and white. Falls with green edges, a brilliant yellow centre with a black line on either side. Grown in a pot under somewhat adverse conditions this variety bloomed on April 20th, but if planted outside in normal fashion would doubtless bloom somewhat earlier.

I. *Orchoides*. Standards lemon yellow; falls same colour with a deep orange keel and brown line markings on either side. Height about 1 ft.

I. *Orchoides sulphures*. Sulphur yellow having narrower foliage than most of the other species. About the last to bloom.

LIST OF VARIETIES OF IRISES FROM 1939 TILL 1949 AND 1950

*for the Alphabetical Iris Check List of the A. I. S.
as far as obtainable.*

PROF. DR. ERNST BIESALSKI
Deutsche Iris Gesellschaft
Eldagsen/Hann. Langestr. 84
Secretary

A. GERMAN VARIETIES

I. Zeppelin. Grafl. Zeppelinscher Gartenbau, Laufen, Baden, Germany.
Iris Specialist, Catalogues, Author of articles for gardening papers. 1950 Stuttgart
Exposition F.C.C.

Bartok	TB-M-Y8L	(Zeppelin 1950)
Etude	TB-M-Y4L	(Zeppelin 1948)
Hindemith	TB-M-W8L	(Zeppelin 1950)
Impromptu	TB-M-S7L	(Zeppelin 1948)
Liszt	TB-M-Y8M	(Zeppelin 1950)
Missa Solemnis	TB-L-R7M	(Zeppelin 1948)
Moment Musical	TB-M-S7M	(Zeppelin 1948)
Debussy	TB-M-Y8L	(Zeppelin 1950)
Nocturnes	TB-M-R3D	(Zeppelin 1948)
Preludes	TB-EM-S7L	(Zeppelin 1948)
Ravel	TB-ML-S8M	(Zeppelin 1950)
Sonate	TB-M-Y4D	(Zeppelin 1948)
Sonatine	TB-M-Y4M	(Zeppelin 1948)
(Synonyme with Sonatine of Cayeux 1947!)		
Cosima Wagner	TB-M-B2L	(Zeppelin 1948)
Little Valse	TB-M-S7L	(Zeppelin 1948)

II. Alexander Steffen, Erfurt, Rubenstr. 54, formerly Director of State
Nurseries at Pillnitz near Dresden, Germany, well known raiser, Lillies,
Peonies, Irises and other plants, Botanist and Author of many Garden-
books, treatises and articles for gardening papers.

Blaues Licht	TB-M-B9L	(Steffen 1939)
Blaue Ferne	TB-L-B1M	(Steffen 1939)
Hochspannung	TB-M-W8M	(Steffen 1949)
Irene	TB-M-W8M	(Steffen 1950)
Neues Hoffen	TB-M-W8L	(Steffen 1949)
Iphigenie	TB-M-R3M	(Steffen 1949)
Nymphe	TB-L-R1M	(Steffen 1940)
Hesperide	TB-M-Y5M	(Steffen 1946)
(Royal Coach x Marmorata)		
Odin	TB-L-B9D	(Steffen 1946)
Froher Sinn	TB-L-R3M	(Steffen 1946)
Braunliche Plicata	TB-M-W7L	(Steffen 1946)
Goldnesdachl	TB-E-Y4M	(Steffen 1946)
(Golden Hind x Hochspannung)		
Kantate	TB-M-Y8M	(Steffen 1947)

Danzig (Zukunftsmusik x Also doch!)	TB-L-R3M	(Steffen 1948)
Indianer	TB-M-Y8L	(Steffen 1948)
Frau Musika	TB-L-R3M	(Steffen 1948)
Torwart	TB-M-WW	(Steffen 1949)
Himmelspforte	TB-L-B1M	(Steffen 1950)
Schneeferner	TB-L-WW	(Steffen 1949)
Purpurblauer Dom	TB-M-B9D	(Steffen 1949)
Anmut	TB-M-R1L	(Steffen 1950)
Weisses Segel	TB-E-WW	(Steffen 1950)
Harmonie	TB-M-Y9D	(Steffen 1950)
Erioca (Synonyme with Th. Schwarz 1944!)	TB-M-Y9D	(Steffen 1950)
Fruhlingslied	TB-E-Y4M	(Steffen 1950)
Backfisch	TB-M-R6L	(Steffen 1949)
Dammerung	TB-M-B3D	(Steffen 1949)
Madonna	TB-M-WW	(Steffen 1949)
Flachskoph	TB-M-Y4L	(Steffen 1949)
Schneeschnelze	TB-M-WW	(Steffen 1949)
Tenaya Kind	TB-M-B1D	(Steffen 1949)
Zitrone	TB-M-Y4L	(Steffen 1949)
Borntalrumpf Weiss-Linarot	TB-M-W8L	(Steffen 1950)
Borntalrumpf Bronze	TB-M-S6M	(Steffen 1950)
Borntalrumpf Gelb	TB-M-Y4M	(Steffen 1950)
Borntalrumpf Hellblau	TB-M-B1L	(Steffen 1950)
Borntalrumpf Rotviolett	TB-M-B7M	(Steffen 1950)

III. Theodor Schwarz, Rees a. Rhein. Amateur Gardener and Breeder of Irises, formerly Farmer at Stedten, Prov. Sachsen, Germany.

Weg ins Blaue	TB-M-B3D	(Schwarz 1945)
Königssee	TB-M-B3D	(Schwarz 1944)
Eroica	TB-M-B3M	(Schwarz 1944)
Aida	TB-M-B3D	(Schwarz 1944)
Kurfürst	TB-L-B9D	(Schwarz 1944)
Papageno	TB-M-B9D	(Schwarz 1944)
Prinz Eugene	TB-L-Y9D	(Schwarz 1944)
Florian Geyer	TB-M-R9M	(Schwarz 1944)
Adelaide	TB-M-R9D	(Schwarz 1944)
Gloria Hortorum	TB-M-B1L	(Schwarz 1944)
Seinfenblase	TB-M-B3M	(Schwarz 1944)
Elfenbeinriese	TB-M-W4L	(Schwarz 1944)
Mude Trauer	TB-M-B1D	(Schwarz 1944)
Bronzeblau	TB-M-B6M	(Schwarz 1944)
Goldfuchs	TB-M-S6M	(Schwarz 1944)
Islandsee	TB-M-B2L	(Schwarz 1944)
Dame in Blau (Elsa Sass X Hawaii)	TB-M-B1L	(Schwarz 1944)
Golddickicht	TB-M-Y4M	(Schwarz 1944)
Havelberg	TB-M-B3M	(Schwarz 1944)
Brauner Turm	TB-M-S4M	(Schwarz 1944)
Limonia	TB-M-Y4M	(Schwarz 1944)
Zitronencreme	TB-M-Y4L	(Schwarz 1944)

IV. Mrs. Friedel Matzek, Amateur Gardener, Breeder, Specialist for Dwarf Irises. 1945 in Tscheko-Slovakia.

Golddom	TB-M-Y9M	(Matzek 1939)
Veilchenkonig	TB-M-B1M	(Matzek 1940)

V. Werner Dorn, Special Gardener for Irises and Breeder, Aachen-Steinebruck.

Halali	TB-L-Y9D	(Dorn 1949)
Parsifal	TB-M-B2M	(Dorn 1949)

B. FRENCH VARIETIES
Only of the Establishment horticultural
Rene Cayeux Vitry s. Seine, France.

Alcee	TB-ML-S6L	(Cayeux 1942)
Alceste	TB-E-B3L	(Cayeux 1947)
Argus	TB-E-R9M	(Cayeux 1949)
Aspasie	TB-E-B3L	(Cayeux 1947)
Caid	TB-L-R9M	(Cayeux (1939)
Cingalais	TB-E-R9M	(Cayeux before 1947,
Donatello	TB-ML-B2L	but not before 1939)
Festival	TB-M-R7M	(Cayeux 1947)
Flaubert	TB-M-R9M	(Cayeux 1949)
Froufrou	TB-EM-W3D	(Cayeux 1949)
Imperial	TB-E-R9L	(Cayeux 1949)
Korsabad	TB-L-R9M	(Cayeux before 1947
Louise Aureau	TB-EM-B1L	but not before 1939)
Lugano	TB-EE-WW	(Cayeux 1947)
Manou	TB-EM-Y3L	(Cayeux before 1947,
Montaigne	TB-L-R7L	but not before 1939)
Pacha	TB-L-S4M	(Cayeux 1948) Re
Pompee	TB-NB- ?	(Cayeux 1947)
St. Wandrille	TB-L-R9L	(Cayeux 1947)
Senegal	TB-L-Y9M	(Cayeux 1947)
Sonatine	TB-L-R1L	(Cayeux after 1939)
Tapis d'Orient	TB-M-S5M	(Cayeux 1947)
		(Cayeux 1947)
no stricter to obtain!		(Cayeux 1947)
		(Cayeux 1948)

Remainder Irises
Out of the Catalogue (English)
Rene Cayeux 1949 (Abstract), Breeder F. Cayeux

AGRIPPA. Golden standard with red bronze reflexes. Falls rounded vivid garnet red lighted gold at throat. E. 1949

LIVADIA. A very distinct colour not easy to define. Standards clear violet lilac at the base. Falls half spread amaranth purple with a large striated and pointed amaranth throat on white ground giving a very particular effect. E. 1949

ATLANTIDE. Very high variety well branched with large flower. Standards copper pink, falls deep red. Latest blooming. 1948
EUTERPE. Standards vivid blue, falls violet blue. E. 1948
SAFI. Large and well shaped dingy blue flower. L. 1948

The following put in sale before 1948

APPARITION. A late variety, dark tawny standards contrasting with pastel-blue, tan bordered falls. M.

ARIOSTE. Well-shaped, well capped, copper-yellow standards broad, rounded, velvety garnet-red, bronzehemmed falls. M.L.

CARTHAGE. Indigo-purple standards. Velvety reddish purple falls lighted with at throat. Remarkably dark colouring. L.

CREPUSCULE. Lilac tawny tinted standards. Pinky blue falls. M.

ESCLARMONDE. Vivid egg-yolk yellow standards. Yellow falls with pinky lavender strain. L.

GALIBOT. Azure-blue standards slightly tinted with sulphur. Velvety red purple falls daintily washed with lavender, white throat striated purple. E.

GALATHEE. Grey-blue, heliotrope tinted standards. Light lilac, slightly slate-coloured falls, lighted with white in center, yellowish throat. M.L.

IN-SALAH. Pure purple standards. Reddish indigo-purple falls. M.L.

LEMNOS. Very pale or sulphur yellow standards. Falls of same colour but paler and rather white, slightly tinted with sulphur. M.L.

MAROCAIN. Copper pink standards, garnet-red. M.L.

MIAMI. Magnificent lavender blue colouring. Very fine concolor variety. M.

OURAL. Light sulphur yellow standards. Halfspread falls garnet-red delicately bordered with gold. M. L.

PAGODE. Very hardy variety. Grey-white standards, dark-amaranth red, lavender-bordered falls. M.

RAYON DE LUNE. Gold yellow standards. Half spread falls with azury white center, gold edged. M. L.

REIMS. A very high and vigorous plant, of the plicata series. Bright lilac standards, white falls striated with lilac. M.

SALAMBO. Standards sulphur yellow blended and overlaid with a light mauve tone; very wide falls of the same colour, but a little more vivid, orange coloured barbs. M. L.

SERAPHITA. Smoky heliotrope standards. Pinky purple falls. Large yellow throat. A very fine variety. M. L.

TANAGRA. Purple standards. Black-purple falls of very good standing. Very large flower. A vigorous and good-sized plant. M. L.

TZIGANE. Bronzy and yellow standards. Falls with yellow center margined with light tan. The colouring somewhat reminds you of that of Jean Cayeux. M. L.

Our Members Write . . .

OUR TRIP TO THE BAYOUS

With baggage, including boots, raincoats and shovel, the Mister and I started out the last of March, in a snow storm, for a trip that was to include a visit to the native iris fields in Louisiana, the Lafayette show and the Shreveport meeting.

Arriving in Lafayette we began with a visit to Ira Nelson's bayou and home. Here is a perfect setting for the Louisiana iris around it. Mr. Nelson's Cherry Bounce is a dark red with lots of life.

Cypress Lake on the campus of S.L.I. had been drained for cleaning and we, arriving early, had a chance to walk over the entire lake and inspect the blossoms at close range. Later we saw the lake filled with water and the tall cypress trees with the grey moss hanging from them. The irises in bloom were a beautiful sight indeed. A dark purple with a brilliant yellow signal patch, a clear canary yellow, and a very, very light blue were outstanding here.

We went to Abbeville to see the MacMillans and there Jo Mac, Bayou Sunset, Little Sunset, Signal Flash and Accents Dark were out in all their glory—as were the MacMillans with their warm greeting.

Mrs. MacMillan said, "You had better get in touch with Marie Caillet, the Shreveport meeting has been postponed I believe." Well, Marie didn't show us any iris but she and Tressie Cook surely serve good strawberry shortcake.

We made several trips to the iris fields below Abbeville, found some good blue *giganticaeruleas*. Then to the Banker-Hewey road and a never to be forgotten sight. Abbeville Red iris blooming along the road side, moss hanging from the trees, a light overcast sky early in the morning and red birds by the hundreds! Heavenly falls far

short of a word to describe it.

The open discussion period at the meeting of the Society for Louisiana Irises, conducted by Mrs. Parks of Houston, Texas, was good. One of the main topics was, "Can Louisiana iris be grown using ordinary garden culture, so that those of us who do not have a bog or bayou can grow them?" We stopped to see Mrs. Roberts in Baton Rouge and found her growing them both ways and initiated to delicious crawfish bisque, a wonderful combination.

Mr. Knowlton's talk at the banquet was especially well timed for me, a newly appointed judge, and later he very kindly gave me some advice that I know will come in handy filling out my ballot.

We came home through Mississippi and Arkansas where the dogwood and red bud were out in all their glory. We arrived home to find we hadn't missed anything but a snow storm the day before.

A pleasant trip is now a memory to be brought out and talked about for years to come. Thanks to the wonderful people who made it such a heart warming experience.—MRS. FRANCES FLECK, Mo.

LEAF IDENTIFICATION

Some irises may have a more or less pronounced reddish tinge at the base of the leaves. It is a most valuable guide to a distracted gardener who has lost all the labels. Even if he has a plan in a book, the plants may have grown and spread so that it is difficult to trace their original positions. In this case the presence of a little red is an enormous help, and one can say—"Ah, this is Mary Geddes, so the one next to it must be—."

Having had my iris beds trampled over, camped upon, and even shelled

during the war, and the no less devastating spading of well-intentioned country men later, who invariably pick up a label and replace it a yard or so away, I find the list of "iris with red leaves" very useful. My list so far includes the following, none very new, for the latest additions to the garden have not grown enough to develop strong clumps.

Berkeley Copper	Mary Geddes
Berkeley Fire	Corrida
Bronze Beacon	Mareschal Ney
Dauntless	Nancy Orne
Jeb Stuart	Omaha
King Midas	Padre
Red Dominion	Amerind
Rose Dominion	Tiber
Sable	The Black Douglas
Thuratus	

The old, old Jacquesiana, which I keep for its extreme lateness also has red-based foliage.

Writing these names I can almost hear the comments of fellow members of the A. I. S. who may wonder why so many "old-timers" are kept. Some are for sentiment, and memories of my first iris days, some thirty years ago. Others are still very useful in hybridizing—Padre and Amerind for their fine branching and shape, Sable and Thuratus for dark shades, Bronze Beacon for vigour and extreme lateness, Berkeley Fire and Mareschal Ney because they are still beautiful reds and attract more attention that some of the newer ones—perhaps because they have height.

—MARY SENNI. Italy.

1951 BLOOM IN BARTLESVILLE

As usual our iris season has not followed any regular pattern. New iris planted last summer have made a very poor showing, due, probably, to a combination of a cold, wet summer and a very dry winter. Some blooming stalks also were frozen. I covered my iris with dry leaves from the latter part of December until the middle of March. Those actually covered came through in excellent shape. Where the wind blew the leaves off, flowers have been below average. The following are some of the better blooms this year:



F. E. Rice, left, Dave McKeithan, right, in the Rice garden.

In the *white* group, New Snow and Snow Carnival were outstanding. Lady Boscowen grew the tallest stalks and was one of the outstanding flowers in the garden. In the *light yellows*, Amadine and Desert Song were lovely. Most of the older light yellows were satisfactory. Mimosa Gold, one of the new ones planted last year, had a perfect stalk with eight buds. It was very fine. Of the *yellows*, Ola Kala again heads the list. Ruffled Zantha was lovely. Hill's Amazon Tan and a yellow seedling also were very fine. In the *red* class, Ranger and Solid Mahogany both performed well. Ranger is really red in twilight. The *pinks* were somewhat disappointing. Of these, Chantilly, Cherie, Fantasy and Pink Cameo still seem the best of the ones blooming this year. Mulberry Rose was very good. Of the *blues* Chivalry showed perfect form and up to seven buds. Old Sierra Blue had the tallest stalks and was excellent. Some of the new blues, as Pierre Minard, Blue Rhythm, and Helen McGregor performed well. In the *brown blend* class, Bryce Canyon, Golden Russett and Casa Morena were the best. *Plicata* Blue

Shimmer is a popular favorite with good substance. Sable, Wabash and Elmore are still musts. Black Forest looks interesting as a new plant.

The period of weather during our blooming season was better than usual. Our show this year drew more spectators than ever and everybody seems to want some of the new and better iris. The fine yellows combined with other colors, in particular, have exceedingly good garden appeal.—F. E. RICE, Okla.

LETTER TO RANDOLPH

There are two or three things that I want to comment on right now before they get off my mind. One is the series of very peculiar results that I am getting from using dwarf pollen on tall bearded irises. As you probably know Paul Cook has sent me pumila pollen, Mellita pollen, Little Elsa pollen and Reichenbachii pollen. Here are the results. I grew a great many seedlings from the cross (Billet Doux x Great Lakes) x Little Elsa. I say a great many, there must be around forty or fifty of them and so far the results are these: to date 17 pure white selfs have bloomed and six blues. In general all of these irises are intermediate in height and size between the two parents. The tall bearded parent was a late bloomer and the resulting seedlings are blooming beginning with the mid-season intermediates. By the way, this rule seems to carry through all the way in my crosses. In other words, when I cross onto a late blooming tall bearded I'm getting mid-season to late blooming intermediates. When I cross onto early bloomers I'm getting early blooming intermediates. These whites and blues referred to above are also intermediate in height and vary from about 14 to 28 inches. The flowers have lots of substance, most of them flare nicely and have spatulate falls and closed standards. Three of the whites are very nice and one of them is a positive super. I think it is going to get a name very shortly.

The next thing I want to comment on is that from an old neglecta



A pure white self from (Billet Doux x Great Lakes) x Little Elsa. A true intermediate, this iris begins to bloom with the dwarfs and continues into the tall bearded season.

of mine that came from Wabash and Shining Waters crossed with Mellita I am also getting intermediates that bloom mid-season to late and vary in height from about 16 to 30 inches. Now in the cross where the Little Elsa pollen was used there are no intermediate colors. All of the blues are about the same tone and all of them have an overlay of deeper blue around the haft which extends down about half way through the falls. The only difference in them is in the height and the shape of the flowers. On the other hand, in the Mellita cross there is a complete spread of colors. On one end is a deep blue purple and this goes through smoky blends to the other extreme where there are at least two bright amoena types and two pastel variegatas.

The next comment that I want to make is on the fact that pumila pollen crossed onto tall bearded irises is not producing intermediates as we know them. Nearly all of them are dwarfs. They range in height from five inches



Gulf Stream x Pumila Blue produced intermediates from ten to twelve inches in height. This one is red-violet with a dark overlay on the fall. The beard is bright blue.

to about twelve inches depending upon the cross. Each individual cross seems to produce seedlings all of the same stature. Minnie Colquitt x pumila violet gave a series of brightly colored little flowers in various shades in blue to red-violet. Most of them have yellowish toned beards and one has a beard tipped with blue. Practically all of the flowers have an overlay of a deeper tone of the same color that extends in a semi-circle half way down the falls. In other words, it is just like a thumb print. One of these seedlings is definitely good. From Gulf Stream x pumila blue I have several seedlings that vary slightly in height. The tallest seems to be around 10 to 12 inches. One of these is a beauty. It is a red-violet self with a spot of almost black-violet on the falls and the beard is a bright light blue. A clump of this is stunning. Another is a nice blue with a blue beard and a blue spot, not quite as nice a flower as the red-violet. A third flower is a

shorter blue form but the beard on the short one has a yellowish tinge.

I had a long row of At Dawning by Sulina. At Dawning, you know, is a pinkish neglecta type and all of the seedlings from this cross are more or less of the same type as At Dawning except one or two which turned out to be darkish purples. Most of the seedlings have bluish standards and rosy falls. Colors are not clear and none of the seedlings are very good. There is one light blue in the bunch that may turn out to be fair. All of them are early as I said before and all are approximately the same height running around 10 inches. Other crosses involving yellows crossed with pumila yellow are giving the same results as to height. I have one very bright little yellow blooming now that is not over four inches tall. ((White Prince x Easter Morn) x Golden Hind) x Pumila yellow. The range was from 4 to 8 inches. What I am driving at is this, in crosses involving pumila where the species is used rather than any hybrid that might involve chamaeiris, you do not get any varying height segregations in the seedlings. They follow pumila closely. There seems to be considerable variation in color but they all come more or less in the same pattern and in the same tone or tint whichever the case may be.

Lastly, I want to comment on an F2 result. Two years ago I was able to set two seed pods where these tall bearded x pumila seedlings were crossed together. The seedlings are now blooming from these two crosses and there is no segregation of tall ones in them at all. The seedlings are all the same height and none of them that are blooming now are over eight inches tall. I forgot to mention that Helen McGregor x pumila blue has given two nice blue selfs with a darker blue haft. A new one this morning is gray-white with a definite greenish cast at the haft. Much like Paul's Green Spot. And further I crossed a late white seedling of Orville Fay's with pumila blue. I got very little germination and only one

of them came through. The flower is a lavender self and on the falls beginning at the tip of the beard is a very deep red-purple signal which makes this little thing look almost like a *regeliocyclus* hybrid. I now have good stocks of these seedlings and if you would like for me to send you up a piece of each one of these that I think is interesting I'll be more than glad to do so, and I just wanted to add the above facts to our general knowledge of these tall bearded x *pumila* hybrids. By the way, I took one of the F_1 seedlings and crossed it with *Zwanenburg* a few years ago. Seven or eight of the things are blooming now and you ought to see them. They are undoubtedly the ugliest, most horrible looking things you ever laid your eyes on. They run in olive yellows with mangy colored beards.

—G. DOUGLAS, Tenn.

THE EXCEPTION THAT PROVES THE RULE?

The April Bulletin came yesterday and everything was at a standstill until I read your *amoena* article. There are lots of interesting things in it.

With *Richard II* coming from *Black Prince* selfed and it in turn being heterozygous for the *amoena* pattern (*pallida* x *amoena*) and with diploid inheritance applying here, it all fits nicely with the view that the white standards are recessive to the colored standards of *pallida* and the white probably segregates like a simple 3:1. My chromosome count of *Richard II* which I got from Paul Cook shows it is 26—a diploid with 2 extra chromosomes.

I have two reasons for doubting that *Shah Jehan* came from *Ambassadeur* x *B. Y. Morrison*. In the first place an unreduced gamete of *B. Y. Morrison* with 24 or 25 chromosomes would have had to function in competition with normally reduced pollen with 12 chromosomes that the bee would have carried to the bloom of *Ambassadeur* to get the 5 or 6 seeds that ripened in the pod from which the *Shah* came. Pollen tubes with 24 grow slower than those with 12 and it's a general rule for which there

are few exceptions that $4N$'s from $2N$ x $4N$ crosses come from crosses with the diploid as the seed parent. This for the simple reason there is no competition between eggs.

The second reason for questioning the *Ambassadeur* x *B. Y. Morrison* cross is that I tried crossing *Ambassadeur* with three different diploids back in 1938 and 1940 with no success. A total of 22 flowers pollinated and no seed from any of them. However, I didn't try *B. Y. Morrison* so this isn't conclusive.

I'm not sure you have the right slant on the original of the old diploid *amoenas*. As I see it they have mostly come as segregates from *pallida* x *variegata* crosses; *pallida* has no yellow and *variegata* is simply *amoena* plus yellow in both the standards and falls. Without any linkage between yellow and *amoena* it wouldn't take a very large F_2 batch of seedlings to get one or more lacking color in the standards and also lacking yellow in both standards and falls, in other words a typical *amoena*. And if you think back to most of the old diploid *amoenas* they all have the lined haft that undoubtedly came from the *variegata* side.

One of these days I'll get together the dope from my *amoena* crosses that were made when we set up the *amoena* program there at Nashville with you and Bob and Jesse and see how everything we have fits together. The articles Jesse and Bob wrote in Bulletin 101 will help.

—L. F. RANDOLPH, New York.

CORROBORATION

I read with much interest your article "Once in a Lifetime." Several years ago, when *Ambassadeur*, *Shah Jehan* and *Grace Sturtevant* were the Glamour Girls of the Iris Society, I succeeded in setting a pod on *Ambassadeur* x *Shah Jehan*.

I got eight plants. Six of them were similar to the *Shah* but not as good. Two of them looked very much like *B. Y. Morrison*. I believe you have fixed the parentage of *Shah Jehan*.—W. H. STEVENS, Virginia.

THE SANTA BARBARA IRIS SHOW

The newly formed Santa Barbara Iris Society staged its First Annual Iris Show at the Santa Barbara Recreation Center on April 28th.

In spite of a heavy rain during the day the venture was a great success. The American Iris Society can be proud of the group of some fifty iris enthusiasts who sold the idea of an iris show to their community.

Thanks to donations from members, commercial garden ads in the schedule, sale of a donation of Iris brand canned food products, the splendid co-operation of the City and County of Santa Barbara in furnishing the tables and containers the committee was able to stage a free show. In fact there was enough surplus to start the ball rolling for a Second Annual Show in 1952.

The Silver Medal of the American Iris Society was won by Frank Jordano Jr. a young Santa Barbara iris enthusiast who has been one of the leaders in the Santa Barbara Society.

The Bronze Medal of the American Iris Society was won by Miss Kate Walker, a pioneer resident of this area and an iris lover of long standing.

The best specimen in this show was a stalk of China Maid grown by Mrs. C. W. Kirkwood of Santa Barbara.

A great deal of credit is due Mrs. Melva Moon, the President of this newly formed group and her officers and members for establishing an annual event in Santa Barbara to promote interest in iris. Mr. Clare Lovell, the General Chairman of the show did a splendid job of staging. Mr. Moon, Mrs. Kirkwood and Mrs. Naida Stodden were a few of those who were instrumental in the success of the project.

This show is a demonstration of what can be done in a small isolated community if the will is there. We as iris enthusiasts should have shows like this all over America. Thanks, Santa Barbara, for challenging us to the task.

—MARION R. WALKER, Calif.

ITS WORTH A LOT, EILEEN!

Kodachrome slide set No. 3 was received about a week in advance of my scheduled talk, and I have tried to make good use of this. My husband who is a professor of biology at Trenton (New Jersey) Junior College incorporated the slides with lectures in college botany, stressing genetics and plant breeding. He felt that the students reacted more to the garden scenes than to the flower portraits.

My talk was to an agricultural society. The reaction of this group was quite different. They were thrilled by the flower portraits, but when they saw the magnificent garden, they were overwhelmed. The comment was: Where does one get the labor to care for such a garden?

One suggestion was made to me after the program and I pass it along to you for what it is worth. It was to this effect: The magnificent gardens shown tend to frighten an average person; possibly some pictures of *small* but choice gardens might suggest that a good iris collection is attainable by an average person.

I realize that your slides usually are seen by persons already infected with iritis, while my talk was intended to stimulate interest in iris. The audience was small due to a bad rain storm, but it was very receptive and keenly interested. I am afraid that they conclude that iris gardening was too costly for most of them, and I was remiss in not pointing out the possibilities of making a good collection without spending a fortune. Another time I shall know what to anticipate from this type of audience.

Thank you for sending me the slide collection. It was a real pleasure to see those lovely new developments.

—EILEEN L. DONOHUE, N.J.

SHUTTERBUG ROBIN

The first Kodachrome Slide Robin is complete. There are twelve members. If you are interested in becoming a member of Robin No. 2, write:



AIS Director Marion Walker speaks to iris group in Southern California.

Orville M. Baker
810 Litchfield
Wichita, Kansas

The operation is simple. When the slide box first reaches you, add your ten slides. The second time it reaches you, take out the original ten and add ten new slides. Thus each time the Robin flies back you will have a new and interesting set to look at and to show your iris friends.—ORVILLE M. BAKER, Director, Kodachrome Slides, Robins.

SHUTTERBUG REPORT

Possibly I had better make a little report on the Round Robin Slide. When I first conceived the idea I was afraid there would be so many "Shutter Bugs" that it would become an immense task. I just received eleven applications, myself completing the group, and we use an Eastman Compartment slide file, each one has his space and the first complete round has been made. Everyone is anxious to receive the slides, and is pleased

with the idea. The Utah man you sent me is the first one on another robin. With a little publicity we might form another robin this winter.

The robin members are strung from Massachusetts to California—Mississippi to Texas. It is so very interesting, I think it should be routed via Nashville so you could have a "look in." I got some ideas from them which I am using and there is a couple of really good sets of slides. Mine are about the worst ones. I don't know whether to feel ashamed or apologize.—ORVILLE M. BAKER, Kansas.

TOO MANY BLUES, NOT ENOUGH NEWS

I have not sent in my membership fee to the American Iris Society because I had hoped to renew some at least of the membership I sold last year.

Some of the memberships I sold I felt sure I could renew because these persons were interested in growing good iris; two or I should say three of these members get at least fifteen or twenty

good new iris each year, and Mrs. Leezy at Springfield has a wonderful garden. My answer from each and all was; first, there was not enough information in the Bulletins. Second, there was too much after the convention last year about who, (those who were fortunate enough to attend) saw, not what they saw. Until these people become interested in who the growers are, what they are introducing and what they have introduced, who you saw at the convention does not interest them at all. They are more like the man David Johnson who wrote "Critique of Progress" in the last Bulletin.

I know the two Schirmers, Mr. and Dr. and Dr. Clevenger and know the iris they have introduced. Have been growing iris for twenty-five years, have a good collection. Know what I want. Use iris in landscaping and in solid beds, but I myself would like to know more about wintering the first winter, use of fertilizer and what to buy. In a limited space I don't want to pay \$6.00 for Bryce Canyon and \$2.50 for Casa Morena and find I have just given room to one I could have done without, namely Casa Morena. Likewise so many others. So many blues! You want the best and the Symposium has so many top blues and whites, each one the best according to catalogues.

So please after the convention, to which we cannot all go, if we want to buy iris this year tell us what you saw and also how they will stand winters like we have.—MRS. A. B. COWLEY, Mo.

WHAT TO DO?

After this winter I am wondering if the iris is really a hardy perennial. I have hundreds of plants, near a thousand and I don't find many plants that aren't suffering from winter rot. I've spent days digging up and throwing away plants. I am surely in need of some advice and help in knowing what to do. I saved very few new plants. I shall explain what I have done and my garden situation, then maybe you can help me.

My garden is in full sun, has clay soil. I water (irrigate) about three or four times a year. We have very little rain fall. My four and five year plants are almost completely gone, several hundred. The three year plants are about one third rot, and also second years the same. Of last years planting I saved about twenty-five plants out of a hundred or more. For two years I have given a light feeding of super phosphate. For two years I have put manure in bottom of the holes. I have beautiful blossoms. Last year I lost a great many of the three year plants from rot. This year is worse. The winter was dry, no snow to speak of. It was warm, then would freeze, this way the whole winter. The strange thing about it is my mother lost very little, under the same conditions but she hadn't added a feeding phosphate. I am wondering if this could have made the difference.

What is troubling me is that I have to use the same ground as I haven't room to move the iris to clean ground. What can I do to keep the new plants I set



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from rotting? Do I have to disinfect the soil and how? I've taken the pieces I have saved and dipped in potassium permanganate before replanting. I've tried to take all soil that might contain spores, but it is so easy to have pieces fall off.

I have never had a clump of tall bearded iris look nice after three years. The old varieties just thrive and bloom from six to eight years. I've seen pictures in the Bulletin that look like old plants and are beautiful. I've tried so hard to follow "The Iris an Ideal Hardy Perennial," but I almost feel I've failed in some way.

You can see from the number of plants I have I love them, and I surely hope you can help me so I won't find every spring such a disappointment and an extra amount of hard work. I've had to dig up nearly every plant.

The Bulletin is a joy to me and I am learning more every year about the iris. Trusting you can help me very soon.

—MRS. IRMA P. SNOW, Utah.

WHAT TO DO!

I can certainly sympathize with you about your epidemic of soft rot. I've had a similar condition in my garden and I believe that I can give you some help. Several years ago my iris were growing fine in the early spring and we had a series of late freezes. Shortly thereafter nearly every clump showed signs of rot and in a very short time greater clumps of two and three year old irises were simply wiped out. The whole thing was a smelly mess.

I disinfected with everything I could find and for the next two or three years I nearly starved my irises to death but I did not entirely clear up the rot condition. This past summer I prepared a new piece of ground and moved all of my irises to this new piece of ground. Many of the clumps were affected so badly by the rot that I only had little nubbins to move. Even after a very severe winter and a lot of spring freezes I have found but four instances of rot so far. Yesterday I dug up and discarded

New Snow, Cahokia, Pierre Menard and one clump of Pale Primrose. I believe though that if sometime in the future I can get some rot free stock of these varieties that I will be able to grow them.

From what you tell me I believe that your trouble is this, that in bringing the manure in to put in the holes underneath the irises in some manner you have infected your soil with the bacillus carotovorus. The excessive freezing and thawing that you have experienced this past winter has resulted in damaged plants. These plants are weak and fall prey to the bacillus that is present in the surface of the soil.

Please let me suggest the following treatment. Dig up the infected clumps. Remove all signs of rotted rhizomes. Get these out and burn them if necessary. Treat the remaining rhizomes in a solution of bichloride of mercury. Make this solution relatively strong and be sure that children and animals are kept away from it. Dry the rhizomes in the shade after they have been exposed to strong sun for at least two hours on each side of the rhizome. This should tend to kill any germs that are left on the rhizomes and they should be in a good condition for replanting.

The next thing is for treatment of the soil. Since most of the rot germs will be in the surface of the soil I would suggest that you simply hoe the surface up and expose it to the sun for several days. Then turn the ground with a fork and expose the underside for a similar time. This should thoroughly mix up all the humus matter that results from the decomposition of the manure. After a week or ten days of sunlight and constant turning most of the rot germs should be killed. It may be that you are feeding your plants too much and it may be that you should have your soil tested to see if you are giving them an over-dose of fertilizer. Also, I believe that if your soil is short of boron this will have a bad effect on your irises. Buy a couple of boxes of borax like you use in your washing machine and scatter

it about your garden at a rate of not over 15 pounds per acre. This will result in healthier plants.

Another thing that I have noticed is this, that I have less soft rot in beds that I have treated with wood ashes. It has been my experience that each individual case of rot infestation has to be treated somewhat differently. If you will check over back issues of the Bulletin you will find that a great number of people have had the trouble and have apparently cured it. Each one seems to have a different method so the experience I'm giving you is just what has worked for me.

I'm going to take the liberty of printing your letter in the Bulletin with this answer and if you are successful we would appreciate hearing from you next year. It is a sad thing to say but I believe firmly that many of our modern varieties of iris are not bred to withstand the ups and downs of spring temperatures over a great part of our country. I certainly do hope that you can find a solution to your problem.

—GEDDES DOUGLAS.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, WITH CANDID PENS

I enjoy the Bulletins enormously, and I read and reread them constantly. The only suggestion I could make is a department similar to "Proof of the Pudding" in the American Rose Annual, with people reporting only on iris grown in their own garden, and listing the number of rhizomes (with which they started, if it is not a first year report), the number of years they have grown it, whether or not it was separated, and how they liked it. Too many of us have ordered an iris on the strength of a wonderful clump in some display garden, which we evidently saw on its very best day, and then watched it behave miserably in our own gardens.

Think how many of us have ordered Wabash on the strength of its Dykes Medal and catalog pictures and then watched it sit unblooming in our garden for years. Prof. Sydney Mitchell in

Sunset Magazine says that Wabash is unsuited to California; that it likes a colder, wetter climate. In my hot dry garden it bloomed the second year I had it and bloomed skimpily until I separated it last summer, now the row of Wabash is providing one stunted, late stalk. In my brother's garden in Central California where it is considerably colder and wetter than here, he had to wait until the third year for blooms. How did it manage to win a Dykes Medal? San Francisco is lovely in my garden, but most of the catalogs that listed it always mentioned that it was not winter hardy in most of the country. How did it win a Dykes Medal?

Other Dykes Medal winners that don't bloom or increase as well as they might in my garden are: Spun Gold, Prairie Sunset, Great Lakes and The Red Douglas. I think most people that have both Wabash and Amigo far prefer the latter. I think most people that have both Sierra Blue and Shining Waters, prefer the latter, although Sierra Blue was the Dykes Medal winner. Shining Waters blooms more and longer for me, and the stalks never fall over, as Sierra Blue sometimes does.

The two iris that are wonderful to live with are Miss California and Sheriffa, yet they don't attract the attention of visitors to my garden the way some less satisfactory sorts do. Only reports from people who had grown them for several years in a climate similar to one's own, are fair recommendations. The first year I had Miss California, I liked it, but I didn't understand why people who had been growing it raved about it so. I've had it five or six years now and I know—it blooms more and longer than anything else I have. As far as Sheriffa is concerned, it just happens to like my garden, I think—I have never seen as nice ones in any commercial display garden, as the ones I always have.

I don't think a lot of brief reports would take up any more space than some of the rambling reports that are printed now, and that might be far more useful. I am not complaining about the

rambling—I don't blame the reports for including a lot of irrelevant matter—nothing could sound more deadly than unadorned lists of iris that were particularly nice in each of the gardens visited. I'm just more inclined to trust the report of someone who has grown two plants for two years, say, that the report of someone who saw a magnificent clump in a display garden on a day that may have been ideally suited to a very temperamental variety.

One more question, and then I'll sign off—what is a sustaining member?

—KATHERINE FAIRBANKS, Calif.

A fair question deserves a fair answer. A sustaining member is simply one who wishes to contribute a little more to the welfare of the society than the \$3.50 ordinary membership. Actually, if our friend from Independence will put the brakes on before things get completely out of hand, the three dollars and fifty

cents from nearly five thousand members will suffice to cover our bare expenses. We will be able to retain the central office, get the Bulletin out and provide a minimum in member services.

Such a program however, will NOT provide much in the way of assistance to the Regional Vice Presidents, the several very important Committees, the specialized groups such as the Dwarf Iris society, etc. It will not provide for prompt service in answering the flood of correspondence that comes from an interested membership such as ours. It will not provide for progress, but will barely enable us to exist, a condition that in the end will result in ultimate deterioration.

The "Sustaining Membership" if espoused by a sufficient number of our members, will be the means of continuing our many worth while activities through this period of financial insecurity.—THE EDITOR.

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REGISTRATIONS AND REPORT FOR 1950

R. E. ALLEN, *Registrar*

In 1950, 106 registrants, located in 30 states and three countries other than the United States, named and registered 335 new irises of their origination, selection or collection. Perhaps the most notable feature of 1950 registrations was the remarkable advance in the Hexagona section where 34 new hybrids of the foliosa, fulva and related species, commonly known as Louisiana irises, were registered. A resurgence of interest was noted in the Japanese section with 10 registrations; the Spuria section with 7 registrations; and the California section with 4 registrations. The custom of naming irises for people continued to diminish during the year but the use of color descriptive names reached a new high with 12 names including the words "Gold" or "Golden" and 7 names commencing with the word "White."

The inauguration and use of formal application blanks contributed much to more accurate descriptions and greatly assisted classification. Color references were about equally divided between the Dictionary of Color; Maerze Paul, and the Wilson Colour Chart, there being few references to Ridgway.

The Report of the Registrar is necessarily tabular in nature and for 1950 is presented in the following tables:

- I. Registrations by Categories.
- II. Registrations by Geographic Origin.
- III. Registrants and Their Registrations.
- IV. Registration by Initial Letters.
- V. Alphabetical List and Description of Registrations.

TABLE I
1950 Registrations by Categories

POGON IRISES		APOGON IRISES	
Tall bearded	261	California hybrids	4
Intermediate bearded	1	Hexagona—Louisiana	34
Dwarf bearded	5	Japanese	10
Table bearded	2	Siberica	1
Onco-cerus hybrids	9	Spuria	7
Pogon total	279	Apogon total	56
		Total Registrations 1950.....	335

TABLE II

1950 Registrations by Geographic Origin

<i>State</i>	<i>Registrants</i>	<i>Registrations</i>		
			New York	4
California	14	56	Wisconsin	3
Massachusetts	6	30	Utah	3
Louisiana	7	23	West Virginia	1
Illinois	7	19	Wyoming	1
Indiana	6	19	Idaho	2
Oregon	5	17	Colorado	1
Nebraska	3	15	New Jersey	1
Kansas	4	14	New Mexico	1
Iowa	4	12	Texas	1
Tennessee	2	12	Maine	1
Missouri	5	11	Ohio	1
Washington	4	11	Oklahoma	1
Arkansas	1	10	United States Total	95
Pennsylvania	2	8	England	9
Minnesota	1	8	Canada	1
Maryland	2	7	New Zealand	1
New Hampshire	1	6	World Total	106
				313
				20
				1
				1
				335

TABLE III

1950 REGISTRANTS AND THEIR REGISTRATIONS

ADAMS, Cary C.; Madison, Wisconsin.

ALGOL; ALIOTH; ALKAID.

ALLEN, Robert E.; Aurora, West Virginia.

ALMA; GOLD SEAL; POISE; SURETY.

ANDERSON, ELIZABETH; Saint Paul 6, Minnesota.

APPLIQUE; BRONZED GOLD; GARDEN BALLET; KAPOsia; ORGANDY
RUFFLES; PAUL BUNYAN; RADIANT GOLD; TINTED FRILLS.

ARCENEaux, Mrs. Edgar; Lafayette, Louisiana.

LOUISIANA DELIGHT.

AUSTIN, Lloyd; Rainbow Gardens, Placerville, California.

THANKSGIVING FIRELIGHT.

BAKER, Orville M.; 810 Litchfield, Wichita 3, Kansas.

CREME KING.

BALLARD, W. R.; Hyattsville, Maryland.

RHYTHM.

BARNEWITZ, Fred; 141 La Cresenda, Vallejo, California.

LA CRESEnda; VALLEJO.

BELSLEY, Ray J.; 2417 Seventh Ave., Peoria 5, Illinois.

JUDITH ELLEN.

BENBOW, Mary; Christchurch Vicarage, Gravesend, England.

SKY PILOT.

BREES, Henry M.; Pierce, Nebraska.

SIDE GLANCES.

BRENNAN, Rev. Edward H.; 15 Clifton Court, Redlands, California.

BRONZE BUTTERFLY.

BROWN, Dr. G. Percy; Barre, Massachusetts.

FALL VELVET; HARVEST BLUE; OCTOBER SHADOWS; WESAMEQUIN;
WHITE FLAME.

BRUMMIT, Leonard W., 30 Bloxham Road, Banbury, Oxon, England.

RED HERALD.

BURGESS, Alan F.; Syracuse, New York.

MISS SYRACUSE.

BUSS, Walter E.; Vincennes, Indiana.

BENEDICTION.

CASSEBEER, Fred W.; Orangeburg, New York.

WHITE SPRITE.

CHOWNING, Frank E.; 2110 Country Club Lane, Little Rock, Arkansas.

BEAUTIFUL MELODY; BRIGHT GALAXY; DELTA COUNTRY; DIXIE DEB;
LOUISIANA PURCHASE; MIDNIGHT STORM; QUAPAW TRIBE; SPRING
SORCERY; TIDEWATER; TWILIGHT REVERIE.

CHRISTENSON, Ethel; Marcus, Iowa.

OLIVE EVA.

CLARK, Stanley C.; 10 Los Arboles Road, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

LA LUZ; GOLD SMOKE.

CLEVENGER, Dr. Lewis; 824 Patterson Ave., Kirksville, Missouri.

PHRADIE WELLS.

COOK, Dr. Franklin; 2747 Hurd Ave., Evanston, Illinois.

DIANEVA; NORTHWESTERN; PINAFORE LASS.

COOK, Paul H.; Bluffton, Indiana.

BLUE BAND; SABLE NIGHT.

CONGER, Sidney L.; 609 South Hazel, Arcadia, Louisiana.

EARLY MORN; EULETTE P. FRANCIS; PALE HANDS.

COUSINS, L. W.; 472 Tecumseh Ave., London, Ontario.

REGATTA.

CRAIG, Thomas; 905 Rome Drive, Los Angeles 65, California.

BIG CLOUD; BLUE PINAFORE; BLUE VALENTINE; SUN AND SHADOW;
SWEET BUTTER; CERULEAN; GROS GRAIN; NIGHT MOTH; PERSIAN
PATTERN; AUNT AMORET; BALL GOWN; BURNISHED BRONZE; CALOR;
CHEEKS OF TAN; CRIMSON GLAZE; CUSTARD; DESERT SUNRISE;
DOWAGER QUEEN; FROSTY; GOLDEN PERCH; REED, HAZEL; HEAD-
LANDS; HOT COPPER; MRS. DOUGLAS PATTISON; MOLTEN; ROYAL
BAND; ROYAL GIANT; SHADY LADY; SILVER PLATTER; VICTORIAN
VEIL; WILMA VALLETTE.

CRAMER, M. O.; 805 Lincoln, Coffeyville, Kansas.

NAPPAWALLA; OSSARIO.

CROWE, Mrs. E. L.; Dallas, Texas.
 DALTEX; SO BIG DALLAS.

CURTIS, Mrs. Julian, 15125 Sutton St., Sherman Oaks, California.
 GRAY DAWN.

De FOREST, Fred; Monroe, Oregon.
 BLACK ORCHID; GOLDEN PLOVER; MARJIE; PERALTA; SPICE OF LIFE.

DOLMAN, John; 304 Vassar Ave., Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.
 ELFIN LAKE; KERLIELLO; PRECISELY; ROSE MAYBUD; WISSINOMING.

DORMON, Caroline; Saline, Louisiana.
 ACACIA; PEGGY O'NEILL; RIPPLED ICE.

DOUGLAS, Geddes; Brentwood, Tennessee.
 BIG DOVE; CRITERION; PAGAN ROYAL; QUEEN'S TASTE.

DREWETT, A. W.; 17 Beckenham Grove, Shortlands, Kent, England.
 PRIMROSE HILL.

FAY, Orville; Wilmette, Illinois.
 TRANQUILITY.

FIELDING, Roy W.; 1144 South Euclid Ave., San Gabriel, California.
 HIGH TOR.

FOTHERGILL, H. Senior; 32 Old Burlington St., London W. 1, England.
 JEMMY O'GOBLIN; LEPRECHAUN; TRANQUILDALE.

*FRAIM, Dr. Irving W.; 99 Claremont St., Waltham 54, Massachusetts.
 BLUE STEEL; GOLDEN BONNETT; MOONLIT GOLD; SKY LANTERN.

GOODMAN, Richard; 253 Bloomingbank Road, Riverside, Illinois.
 ROYAL ERMINE.

GORTON, Clare R. (Mrs. J. M.); S. Lake Shore Drive, Shreveport, Louisiana.
 GAY LADY; LENORA; LOUISIANA SPRING; REX.

*GRAVES, Dr. Robert J.; Concord, New Hampshire.
 CAREFREE; ICE MAIDEN; JAN HESS; KIKI; MEDICINE MAN; MUCH ADO.

HALL, David F.; 809 Central Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
 BALLERINA; DOLLY VARDEN; FUCHSIA; GARDEN GOLD; LADY SWEET; ROSEDALE; TEMPLE BELLS; VANITY FAIR.

HALL, H. F. Moorestown, New Jersey.
 GOLDEN RULE; ROYAL ENSIGN.

HALL, Roy H.; 270 South Dellrose, Wichita, Kansas.
 LORNA MARY.

HARRELL, Mildred; 1108 Liberty St.; Aurora, Illinois.
 BRONZE TONE; CITY LIGHTS; LADY CHARTREUSE; TWOSOME.

HUNT, Eugene A.; Fallis, Oklahoma.
 BLANCHE CECELIA.

JONAS, Paula C.; 4747 Kyle Road, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
 GARNET GEM.

KLEINSORGE, Dr. R. E.; Silverton, Oregon.
 ALLINE ROGERS; PROSPECTOR; THOTMES III.
 KNOWLTON, Harold W.; 32 Hancock St., Auburndale 66, Massachusetts.
 CRICKET; GOLDEN MOON; HUMMING BIRD; PEARL CUP; PILGRIM BELLE; THORWALD; WAUMBEEK.
 KRIZ, Dr. G. Alan; Elm Grove, Wisconsin.
 FAIRY LANE.
 LAPHAM, E. G.; 1003 Strong Ave., Elkhart, Indiana.
 BIG TIME; LOTTA LEMBRICH; ROSA BARONE.
 LINSE, Jack G.; Box 201, Route 3, Yakima, Washington.
 RIPPLES; SPELLBOUND; WELCOME GUEST; WHISPERS.
 LYELL, R. L.; 2103 N Street, Auburn, Nebraska.
 ANTIQUE CHESTNUT; VELVET MANTILLA; PURPLE FLASH; ROYAL DUKE; RUFFLED BONNET.
 LYON, David W.; 7041 Woodman Ave., Van Nuys, California.
 DAZZLE DUST; DREAM GOLD; THE MAD HATTER.
 MARX, Walter; Boring, Oregon.
 CIRCUS; PEPPER; RUBY LIGHT.
 MAXWELL, Alexander; Box 805, Route 1, Yakima, Washington.
 CLIFFDELL; CREAM PINK; MAXWELTON; ROYAL WISH.
 McKEE, Wm. J.; Kenwood Ave., Worcester, Massachusetts.
 ANNABET; CEYLON; CHINESE WHITE; KIM; PANAY; PONDER; TEMPLE; VANDAX.
 MIESS, Elma; 12982 Borden Avenue, San Fernando, California.
 GOLDEN GLEAM; SPRING MELODY.
 MOORE, Kenneth S.; Sheridan, Wyoming.
 RENO; RIMROCK; ROSE TAFFETA; TENSLEEP.
 MURDOCK, Eleanor L.; East Templeton, Massachusetts.
 ERNELL.
 MURRELL, Olive (Mrs. P. B.); Orpington, Kent, England.
 HAWKS HILL.
 NAYLOR, M. D.; 1484 Yale Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.
 FRANCIE CRANDALL; TEMPLE SQUARE.
 NESMITH, Elizabeth N. (Mrs. Thomas); 166 Fairmount St., Lowell, Massachusetts.
 BELVIDERE; BLACK SATIN; DESERT DUSK; MAGIC SAILS; SUMMER SONG.
 NIES, Eric; 1423 N. Kingsley Drive, Hollywood 27, California.
 CARMEN CORLISS; VIRGINIA MANSFIELD.
 OLLMAN, Marie; 2330 Oak Park Ave., Berwyn, Illinois.
 HAPPY TALK; HONEY BUN.
 PATRICK, Ruby, Route 1, Emmett, Idaho.
 NICKI NOREEN.

PATTISON, Ida M. (Mrs. Douglas) 4110 Ventura Canyon Ave.,
Sherman Oaks, California.

BRONZE SYMPHONY; WHITE PEACOCK.

PAYNE, W. A.; Route 3, Terre Haute, Indiana.

BUTTERFLY PRINCE; COBRA DANCER; CONFETTI SHOWER; FASHION
MODEL; FLYING TIGER; JOYOUS CAVALIER; NIGHT MUSIC; ROSE
CAVALIER; SILVER CREST; SCHERZO.

*PERRY, Dr. Paul; Cumberland, Maryland.

LILT; ROYAL PURPLE; VERITY; WRATH; XENON; YANKEE.

RABOIN, Marie, (Mrs. Max) ; 1401 Ridge St., Niagara, Wisconsin.

THE KIMLARK.

RAFFILL, C. P.; Kew Gardens, England.

FIERY ETNA.

RANDALL, H. J.; Sandilands, Woking, Sussex, England.

AMBLESIDE; CONISTON; DAME CAROLINE; ENNERDALE; FRIARS CRAG;
RYDAL WATER; WHITE GHYLL.

REES, George N.; Nixa, Missouri.

MICKE; NIXIANNA.

REEVES, Mrs. J. Louis; 627 Marshall Ave., Webster Groves, Missouri.

SAZONADA.

ROBERTS, Edwin; 1423 Escondido Blvd.; Escondido, California.

ENCHANTED ISLE; HAUNTING MELODY.

SAMUELSON, A. A.; Route 2, Pullman, Washington.

DOUBLE EAGLE.

SAPP, Mrs. J. A.; 2319 Pennsylvania Ave., Joplin, Missouri.

GRECIAN URN; WHITE SHEPHERDESS.

SASS, Henry E.; Benson Station, Omaha 4, Nebraska.

BOLD COPPER; CAPELLA; DANCING WATERS; LINDORA; NEBRASKA
SUNSET; ORCHID MIST; PINK SAILS; PORT WINE; SNOW SHEEN.

SCHIRMER, Carl O.; 6104 King Hill Ave., Saint Joseph, Missouri.

BLUEBLOOD; PANAMERICAN; PANORAMA; TOPS; WHITE MAGIC.

SCHREINER, Bernard; Box 327, Route 2, Salem, Oregon.

BLACK DIAMOND.

SCHREINER, Robert; Box 327, Route 2, Salem, Oregon.

BLACK MIDNIGHT; DYNAMITE; FLYING SAUCER; QUICKSILVER.

SHULENBURG, H. M.; 11 Robinson Way; Arvada, Colorado.

MOUNT SHAVANO.

SIMS, Mrs. Harold, Shreveport, Louisiana.

DIXIE HOLIDAY.

SMALL, Robert; Anness, Kansas.

GLORIANA; GYPSY TRAIL; IRISH HOLIDAY; IRISH LUCK; MATT
BISHOP; NIGHT WIND; PINK CHAMPAIGNE; PINK PRELUDE; ROSE
MEDALLION; SUN SHADE.

SMITH, Mrs. Alex; 212 Oakley Drive; Shreveport, Louisiana.
 BLUE CHIP.

SMITH, Kenneth D.; Benedict Road, Staten Island 4, New York.
 ANGELA BORGIA; LADY ILSE.

SNYDER, W. S.; Sioux City, Iowa.
 ENJOY; FASHION; GRATITUDE; INSIGNIA.

SOLOMON, Raymond C.; 1789 Hubbard Ave., Salt Lake City 5, Utah.
 GOLDEN GEM.

STEVENS, Jean (Mrs. W. R.); Wanganui, New Zealand.
 GRAND CHIEF.

STRANDER, John B.; 13310 Interurban Ave., Seattle 88, Washington.
 LOUISE STRANDER; SEATTLE CENTENNIAL.

SUITER, Mrs. Glen; Caldwell, Idaho.
 WHITE SATIN.

TAYLOR, Carl C.; 1519 Tippecanoe Ave., San Bernardino, California.
 GRACIOUS LADY.

THORUP, Herman F.; 1195 E. Crystal Ave., Salt Lake City 6, Utah.
 PAROWAN.

TOBIE, Dr. Walter E.; Portland, Maine.
 SHANUNGA PURPLE.

TOMALIN, F. W.; Winding Wood, Cove Road, Fleet, Hants, England.
 BLUE HUSSAR; COUNSELLOR; GALA GIRL.

TOMPKINS, Chester W.; Sioux City, Iowa.
 BANDIT; COPPER CANYON; MAGIC MIST; WAR CRY.

TRICHEL, Lillian H. (Mrs. Milton); 811 Kirby Place, Shreveport, Louisiana.
 BONFIRE; CADDO; DE SOTO; EMMA SAMPLE; HAILE SELASSIE II;
 IDA JACK HALL; LILLIAN BOULDIN; NANKATOSH; SIBYL SAMPLE;
 SUSIE KLINE.

VON DAUBE, William; Richfield Springs, New York.
 GOLDEN INVASION.

WATERS, Don; Elmore, Ohio.
 BLUE PARAKEET.

WEED, Edna C. (Mrs. Howard); Beaverton, Oregon.
 GENELLEN.

WELCH, Walter; Middlebury, Indiana.
 PRIMUS; BLARNEY.

WHITE, A. T.; Aldbury, Oxley, Walford, England.
 ALFRED EDWIN; ELIZABETH.

WHITE, Clarence G.; Redlands, California.
 ASOKA OF NEPAL; JATAKA OF NAGASENA; MARA OF BENARES;
 PALI OF BACTRIA; VINAYA OF SHANKARA.

WHITING, Agnes (Mrs. Charles); Mapleton, Iowa.
 HEATHCREST; MAPLE FLAME; SWEETBRIAR.

WILLIAMS, Adelaide B.; Route 3, Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

DEVONSHIRE CREAM; LES EOLIDES; SIEGMUND.

WILLS, J. E.; Belle Mead Blvd., Nashville, Tennessee.

BELLE MEADE; BLUE SERENE; CARNTON; DEVOIR; FAIR MORN; RIGHT ROYAL; WELL CONTENT; WESTERN STAR.

WITTEMAN, Henry; 2110 E. Sonora St., Stockton, California.

CARTHAGE BEAUTY; CARTHAGE GEM.

* Deceased.

TABLE IV
REGISTRATIONS BY INITIAL LETTERS

<i>Initial Letters</i>	<i>Registrations</i>	<i>Initial Letters</i>	<i>Registrations</i>
A	14	N	9
B	35	O	5
C	27	P	27
D	18	Q	3
E	7	R	27
F	12	S	26
G	24	T	16
H	13	U	—
I	4	V	7
J	4	W	18
K	5	X	1
L	16	Y	1
M	15	Z	—

Each year the new iris names registered conform more or less to a certain frequency pattern of initial letters. Table IV shows the pattern for 1950. Popularity of B, G, P, R, and W is due largely to the fact that they are the initial letters of Blue and Black, Golden, Pink, Red and White.

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PEONIES—

The best and most vigorous growers. Brilliant Hybrids our specialty.

HEMEROCALLIS—

We can now announce new ever-bloomers that bloom every day from mid-June until frost.

IN IRIS—

• We have most all the 100 Best

• Many top new dwarfs

• The best new Siberians & Spurias

Always ready to supply any desired collection at modest prices

NEW LIST READY IN APRIL

TABLE V

ALPHABETICAL LIST AND DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRATIONS 1950

- ACACIA. AH40-M-YL1; (Dormon C.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Acacia yellow self; APRIL MOON x UNKNOWN.
- ALFRED EDWIN. TB36-M-YL/W4; (White, A. T.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Primrose yellow & white bicolor; WHITE CITY x PRES. PILKINGTON.
- ALGOL. TB36-LaM-YO1; (Adams, C. C.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; yellow-orange self; ALDEBARAN x ORION.
- ALIOTH. TB36-La-YL/RL4; (Adams, C. C.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pale yellow & pink bicolor; ALDEBARAN x BETELGEUSE.
- ALKAID. TB36-LaM-BLW1; (Adams, C. C.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Bright blue self, white influence; ALDEBARAN x ANTARES.
- ALLINE ROGERS. TB34-M-RL/Y5; (Kleinsorge, R. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lavender pink & gold blend; CASCADE SPLENDOR x DAYBREAK.
- ALMA. TB38-M-Wwl; (Allen, R. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pure white self; NEW SNOW x ALARK.
- AMBLESIDE. TB36-E-OYD 1; (Randall, H. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Bright brown self; NIGHTINGALE x MELODIST.
- ANGELA BORGIA. TB36-LaM-RL1; (Smith, K. D.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pink self, tangerine beard; LOOMIS V-20 x GAY TROUBADOUR: No. 7-4.
- ANNABET. TB40-M-Wv/Yw4; (McKee, W. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White-lavender & yellow-white bicolor; (FAIRDAY x McKEE 54-11) x FAIRDAY. S & R ANNABET; McKee; Reg. 1949; N.I.
- ANTIQUE CHESTNUT. TB36-LaM-R/ORD3; (Lyell, R. L.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Wine red & chestnut bitone; BURNING BRONZE x GARDEN MAGIC.
- APPLIQUE. TB35-M-W/RL2; (Anderson, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & rose plicata; WASATCH x TIFFANY.
- ASOKA OF NEPAL. OXB34-E-VL/GY 5; (White-Lothrop; Reg. 1950). Oncobred; Lavender, olive ochre, purple blend; Parentage unknown: #34B-48-1.
- AUNT AMORET. TB35-La-W/V2; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. Craig, 1950). Tall bearded; White & bright violet plicata; ADVANCE GUARD x MITCHELL O-50.
- BALLERINA. TB36-M-ROP 1; (Hall, D. F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Flamingo pink self; CHERIE x FANTASY: #47-19. S & R BALLERINA; Hall, D. F.; Reg. 1947; N.I.
- BALL GOWN. TB35-LaM-ORD/V5 (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Rosy brown & violet blend; (CHINA MAID x TIFFANY) x SULTANS ROBE.

- BANDIT. TB35-M-RM 1; (Tompkins, C. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Red self; REWARD x CAPE BON.
- BEAUTIFUL MELODY. AH33-M-RPw 1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Apple blossom pink self, white edge; ACCOLADE x DAN DEBAILLON.
- BELL MEADE. TB35-EM-W/B 2; (Wills, J. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & blue plicata; BLUE SHIMMER x SNOW CRYSTAL: #79-46.
- BELVIDERE. TB40-M-RDo 1; (Nesmith, Elizabeth N.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Garnet brown self, copper flush; (SUNSET SERENADE x SEQUATCHIE) x BRYCE CANYON: #45-27M.
- BENEDICTION. TB39-VLa-VR 1; (Buss, Walter E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Violet-red self; ORCHID LADY x VATICAN PURPLE.
- BIG CLOUD. AB40-M-Wy 1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950, Craig). Spuria; White self, yellow influence; (SHELFORD GIANT x SUNNY DAY x WADI ZEM ZEM.
- BIG DOVE. AH34-M-WN 1; (Douglas, Geddes; Reg. 1950. Int. 1950 Nesmith). Louisiana; Dove gray self.
- BIG TIME. TB-39-M-OR/R3; (Lapham, E. G.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Etruscan-Acajou red bitone; RED WAVES x (REDWARD x COPPER ROSE).
- BLACK DIAMOND. TB-34-M-VD 1; (Schreiner, Bernard; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dark violet self; BLACK FOREST x (THE BLACK DOUGLAS x BLACK BEAUTY).
- BLACK MIDNIGHT. TB38-LaM-RVD 1; (Schreiner, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Black purple self; THE BISHOP x ETHIOP QUEEN.
- BLACK ORCHID. TB34-E-VD 1; (DeForest, Fred; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950; DeForest). Tall bearded; Fluorite violet self; (HER GRACE x UNKNOWN) x SABLE: #11-47.
- BLACK SATIN. TB34-LaM-BVD 1; (Nesmith, Elizabeth N.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dark blue-violet self; (THE BISHOP x SABLE) x BLACK FOREST: #46-55A.
- BLANCHE CECILIA. TB36-EM-W/BV2; (Hunt, Eugene A.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & blue-violet plicata; TIFFANY x THEODOLINDA.
- BLARNEY. DB7-E-W/G4; (Welch, Walter; Reg. 1950). Dwarf bearded; White & green bicolor; (FIANCEE x FAIRY) x P. COOR #15-46.
- BLUE BAND. DB6-EE-BL/BV3; (Cook, Paul H.; Reg. 1950). Dwarf bearded; Light blue & blue-violet bitone; yellow *chamaeiris* x blue *pumila*.
- BLUEBLOOD. TB38-EM-BM1; (Schirmer, Carl O.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Blue self; DEEP VELVET x GREAT LAKES.

- BLUE CHIP. AH40-M-BM1; (Smith, Mrs. Alex F.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Medium blue self; Parentage unknown. S & R BLUE CHIP; Williams, T. A.; Reg. 1937; N.I.
- BLUE HUSSAR. TB42-M-B/BD3; (Tomalin, F. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Blue & deep blue bitone; SOUV. DE MME. GAUDICHAU x UNKNOWN.
- BLUE PARRAKEET. TB40-LaM-BL 1; (Waters, Don; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Williamson). Tall bearded; Chicory blue self; BANDMASTER x AZURE SKIES.
- BLUE PINAFORE. AB45-M-BPy 1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Spuria; Pale blue self, yellow influence; ALICE EASTWOOD x FIFTH SYMPHONY.
- BLUE SERENE. TB40-M-BL 1 wk; (Wills, J. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light blue self, white beard; BLUE RHYTHM x SAINT REGIS: #194-48.
- BLUE STEEL. TB38-La-BM 1; (Fraim, Irving W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Medium blue self; MISSOURI x LAKE SHANNON.
- BLUE VALENTINE. AB40-M-BP/Y5; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Spuria; Pale blue & yellow blend; white seedling x TWO OPALS.
- BOLD COPPER. TB38-M-YOD5; (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; Dark tan-brown blend; 45-70 x TOBACCO ROAD: #48-266.
- BONFIRE. AH27-La-RMy1; (Trichell, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Bright red self, gold signal; white *foliosa* x BAYOU VERMILLON.
- BRIGHT GALAXY. AH18-E-VDy1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Purple self, yellow signal; LOUISE AUSTIN x HAILE SELASSIE.
- BRONZE BUTTERFLY. AB48-M-YD/Y3; (Brennan, Edward H.; Reg. 1950). Spuria; Bronze & yellow bitone; BRONZSPUR x OCHRAUREA.
- BRONZED GOLD. TB36-LaM-YD1; (Anderson, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dark golden self; TREASURE ISLAND x AMITOLA.
- BRONZE SYMPHONY. TB38-M-ROD1; (Pattison, Mrs. Douglas; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Bright copper self; COPPER RIVER x PATRICE.
- BRONZE TONE. TB36-LaM-OYD/OYL5; (Harrell, Mildred; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Bronze & salmon blend; BATAAN x OREGON TRAIL.
- BURNISHED BRONZE. TB40-La-ROD/V5; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Henna brown & violet blend; (CHINA MAID x TIFFANY) x PRAIRIE SUNSET.
- BUTTERFLY PRINCE. AJ50-M-3RV1; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Violet self, mulberry veined; Payne #82 x Payne #34.

- CADDO. AH36-LaM-ORD/Y2; (Trichell, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Nesmith). Louisiana; Red-bronze, gold signal; LILYANA x BAYOU VERMILION.
- CALOR. TB30-La-OD1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Orange copper self; PRAIRIE SUNSET x PEACH GLOW.
- CAPELLA. TB36-LaM-YD1; (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; Deep yellow self; #44-111 x #44-170: #48-306.
- CAREFREE. TB35-LaM-Y/W2; (Graves, Robert J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow, white center; CORPORAL MARY x APRICOTS #48-46A. S & R CAREFREE; Graves; Reg. 1941; N.I.
- CARMEN CORLISS. AB40-LaM-BM1; (Nies, Eric; Reg. 1950). Spuria; Medium blue self, yellow signal; DUTCH DEFIANCE x SAUGATUCK.
- CARNTON. TB38-La-RM/YD1; (Wills, J. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Rosy-red, golden-brown self; BRYCE CANYON x (PRAIRIE SUNSET x LANCASTER) : #232-48.
- CARTHAGE BEAUTY. TB32-EM-OYL/Ws3; (Wittelman, Harry; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Cream & oyster bitone; MIDWEST GEM x GRAND CANYON.
- CARTHAGE GEM. TB38-La-YP1; (Wittelman, Harry; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Martius yellow self; MISTY GOLD x GOLDEN HIND.
- CERULEAN. OP40-E-BP1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Pro-cyclis; Cerulean blue self; PURISSIMA x CAPITOLA.
- CEYLON. TB36-LaM-YD1; (McKee, W. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Deep gold self; (MOONTIDE x JERICHO) x ORANGE GEM.
- CHEEKS OF TAN. TB44-M-RL/VL5; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Mallow pink & Lavender blend; CHINA MAID x COPPER RIVER.
- CHINESE WHITE. TB42-M-Ww1; (McKee, W. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pure white self; (SNOW FLURRY x WO-PEEN) x (KATHERINE FAY x WO-PEEN).
- CIRCUS. TB36-VLa-YL/R2; (Marx, Walter; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Marx). Tall bearded; Light yellow & red plicata; MARQUITA x SUNDIPT.
- CITY LIGHTS. TB37-M-YM/R2; (Harrell, Mildred; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Bright yellow & red plicata; TIFFANY x FIRECRACKER.
- CLIFFDEL. TB38-M-YD/RV5; (Norton-Maxwell; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Brown gold & orchid blend; (ALEXIA x Unknown) x CASCADE SPLENDOR.
- COBRA DANCER. AJ48-M-6W VR2; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Light ground, mulberry overlay; Payne #82 x Payne #30.

CONFETTI SHOWER. AJ48-EM-6RL/V2; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Rose ground, violet stippled; Payne #30 x Payne #82.

CONISTON. TB36-M-YM1; (Randall, H. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Medium yellow self; MABEL CHADBURN x ELEGANS.

COPPER CANYON. TB38-M-OD1; (Tompkins, C.W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Copper-orange self; (ARAB CHINF x TOBACCO ROAD) x COPPER CLAD.

COUNSELLOR. TB36-M-YD1; (Tomalin, F. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Deep yellow self; CANDLELIGHT x ALICE HARDING.

CREAM PINK. TB28-M-ORP1pb; (Norton-Maxwell; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Blush pink self, pink beard; CHANTILLY x MIDWEST GEM.

CREME KING. TB36-M-OYP1; (Baker, O. M.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Cream self, gold edge; SNOQUALMIE x GOLDEN FLEECE.

CRICKETT. TAB18-M-OY/ORD4; (Knowlton, Harold W.; Reg. 1950). Table Iris; Orange-yellow & red bicolor; PRINCE OF ORANGE x REDYEN.

CRIMSON GLAZE. TB40-LaM-ORD/RD3; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Brown-red & crimson bitone; NARANJA x RICH RAIMENT.

CRITERION. TB36-M-W/VBM4; (Douglas, Geddes; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & violet-blue bicolor; EXTRAVAGANZA x WABASH.

CUSTARD. TB40-M-Y/OD2; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Yellow & cinnamon plicata; RICH RAIMENT x Mitchell #41-55.

DAL TEX. TB30-M-YD1; (Whiting-Crow; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Crow). Tall bearded; Deep chrome yellow self; OLA KALA x ROCKET #46-39.

DAME CAROLINE. TB42-M-Ww1; (Randall, H. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White self; LADY BOSCAWEN x SEAGULL.

DANCING WATERS. TB36-M-W/B2; (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; White & blue plicata; BLUE SHIMMER x Unknown.

DAZZLE DUST. TB32-M-Y/VL5; (Lyon, David W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Tan & lavender blend; PAINTED DESERT x JULIET: #D211-47-1.

DEEP GOLD. TB37-M-YD1; (Cramer, M. O.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded. Deep yellow self; (MICHELANGELO x NARANJA) x CALIFORNIA GOLD.

DELTA COUNTRY. AH38-La-Yol; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Bright gold self; orange signal; DIXIE DEB x (MARINGOUIN FULVA x KRAEMER YELLOW).

- DESERT DUSK. TB40-La-OD/OYD3; (Nesmith, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Orange-brown bitone; (FLORA CAMPBELL x SEQUATCHIE) x MIOBELLE: #46-50A.
- DESERT SUNRISE. TB45-M-GYPb1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Pale green-gold self, blue blaze; CHINA MAID x COPPER RIVER.
- DE SOTO. AH42-ELa-RVDyl; (Trichel, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Red-violet self; gold signal; LILYANA x BAYOU VERMILION.
- DEVOIR. TB36-M-RL/VL5; (Wills, J. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Rose-pink & lavender yellow blend; (HOOSIER SUNRISE x (MAY DAY x AUBANEL: #35-46.
- DEVONSHIRE CREAM. TB40-La-YM1; (Williams, Adelaide B.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Butter yellow self; NEPENTHE x TREASURE ISLAND.
- DIANEVA. TB34-M-W/BV2; (Cook, Franklin; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & blue-violet plicata; BLUE SHIMMER x SNOW VELVET.
- DIXIE DEB. AH38-E-YL1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950)., Louisiana; Sulphur yellow self; gold spot; LOCKETTS LUCK x (MARINGOUIN FULVA x *foliosa*.
- DIXIE HOLIDAY. AH28-M-VB/W2; (Sims, Mrs. Harold; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Violet-blue, white marking; Parentage unknown, collected.
- DOLLY VARDEN. TB38-M-ORP1; (Hall, David F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pink salmon self; FANTASY x COURTIER: #46-60. S & R DOLLY VARDEN; Hall, D. F.; Reg. 1948; N.I.
- DOUBLE EAGLE. TB36-M-Yg1; (Samuelson, A. A.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Double yellow self, green influence; S3-6 x R2-5.
- DOWAGER QUEEN. TB40-EM-RVL1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Light red-violet self; ((ACROPOLIS x DESTINY) x (TIFFANY x TIFFANY)) x INSPIRATION.
- DREAM GOLD. TB40-M-YM1; (Lyon, David W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Golden yellow self; CHAR-MAIZE x ROCKET: #D314-483.
- DYNAMITE. TB36-M-YD/RD2; (Schreiner, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Gold & maroon plicata; (MAGIC CARPET x TIFFANY) x FIRECRACKER.
- EARLY MORN. AH36-M-OYL/ORL5; (Conger, Sidney L.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Deep cream & old rose blend; CAJUN JOYEUSE x Unknown.
- ELFIN LAKE TB34-La-BL1; (Dolman, John; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light blue self; BANDMASTER x BLUE RHYTHM.
- ELIZABETH. TB36-M-YL1; (White, A. T.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lemon yellow self; WHITE CITY x SAINT CRISPIN.
- EMMA SAMPLE. AH38-M-RLyl; (Trichel, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Bright rose self, gold signal; (Giganticaerulea Alba x fulva) x Same.

ENCHANTED ISLE. TB35-EM-RP/BV4tb; (Roberts, Edwin; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light pink & Concord purple bicolor; SPINDRIFT x HIT PARADE.

ENJOY. TB30-E-OR1; (Snyder, W. S.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Snyder). Tall bearded; Brazil red self; Snyder seedling x RED BONNET.

ENNERDALE. TB33-LaM-Y/Wy4; (Randall, H. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Primrose & white bicolor; MARION VAUGHN x MATTIE GATES.

ERNELL. TB36-M-RL1; (Murdock, Eleanor L.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded Light red self; LIGHTS ON x REDWYNE.

EULETTE P. FRANCIS. AH30-M-YP/RL5; (Conger, Sidney P.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Cream and carmine blend; NEW ORLEANS x Unknown.

FAIR MORN. TB38-EM-BP1; (Wills, J. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pale blue self; SNOW VELVET x SNOW CRYSTAL.

FAIRY LANE. TB38-M-Y/RV2; (Kriz, G. Alan; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Cream & red violet plicata; GOLDEN TREASURE x TIFFANY.

FALL VELVET. IB15-ERe-RVD1; (Brown, G. Percy; Reg. 1950). Intermediate; Deep purple self; AUTUMN SUNSET x SEPTEMBER SPARKLER.

FASHION. TB32-La-OYL1; (Snyder, W. S.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Snyder). Tall bearded; Light cream self; CLOTH OF GOLD x Snyder seedling.

FASHION MODEL. AJ42-LaM-9VD1; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Fluorite violet self; RISHONO x MAHOGANY.

FIERY ETNA. TB36-M-RD1; (Raffill, C. P.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Mahogany red self; (RADIANT x Unknown) x TIFFANJA.

FLYING SAUCER. TB34-M-W/VR2; (Schreiner, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Silver-white & violet-red plicata; plicata parentage.

FLYING TIGER. AJ45-M-6VP/V2; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Pale violet, veined violet; KURO-KUMO x Iso-No-NAMI.

FRANCIE CRANDALL. TB38-M-Wrl; (Naylor, M. D.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White, pink infused; SNOW FLURRY x LEILANI.

FRIARS CRAG. TB34-M-OY1; (Randall, H. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light brown self; TOBACCO ROAD x MELODIST.

FROSTY. TB45-LaM-W/V2; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; (White & violet plicata; (TIFFANY x LOS ANGELES) x Mitchell O-50.

FUCHSIA. TB32-M-RVM1rb; (Hall, D. F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Fuchsia self; TALLY HO x COURTIER: #48-33.

GALA GIRL. TB36-M-YMr1; (Tomalin, F. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow self, red influence; ROMOLA x MRS. F. W. TOMALIN.

GARDEN BALLET. TB40-EM-VRL1; (Anderson, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Orchid pink self; BALLET GIRL x EROS.

GARDEN GOLD. TB34-LaM-YD1tb; (Hall, David F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Old gold self; #44-26 x (#44-26 x COURTIER): #50-17.

GARNET GEM. TB36-M-RD1; (Jonas, Paula C.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dark garnet self; #106-46 x 108-46.

GAY LADY. AH40-M-VL1; (Gorton, Clare R.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Wisteria violet self, yellow signal; Parentage unknown.

GENELLEN. TB40-LaM-RL/Y5; (Weed, Edna C.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Weed). Tall bearded; Pink, buff & cream blend; GOLDEN EAGLE x Pink seedling.

GLORIANA. TB30-M-ORL5; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). tall bearded; Light orange-red blend; SPRING MAID x MATULA. S & R GLORIANA; Craigie; Reg. 1939; N.I.

GOLDEN BONNET. TB39-LaM-OY/OY3; (Fraim, Irving W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Orange & yellow-orange bitone; GOLDBEATER x GOLDBEATER.

GOLDEN GEM. TB42-LaM-YM1; (Solomon, Raymond C.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Golden yellow self; BERKELEY GOLD x MIDWEST GEM.

GOLDEN GLEAM. TB40-M-YM1; (Miess, Elma; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dandelion yellow self; TIFFANJA x TOBACCO ROAD.

GOLDEN INVASION. TB42-LaM-YD1; (Von Daube, Wm.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Deep yellow self; GOLDEN HIND x Unknown.

GOLDEN MOON. TB34-M-YD1; (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; Deep yellow self; OLA KALA x GOLDEN MAJESTY.

GOLDEN PERCH. TB36-La-O/OR5; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Orange & henna blend; SHADY LADY x CASCADE SPLENDOR.

GOLDEN PLOVER TB38-LaM-GY1; (De Forest, Fred; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 De Forest). Tall bearded; Isabella green-yellow self; CALDERILLA x TOBACCO ROAD.

GOLDEN RULE. TB40-La-OYM1; (Hall-Nesmith; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Indian yellow self; SPUN GOLD x BERKELEY GOLD: #Y-71.

GOLD SEAL. TB38-EM-YD1; (Allen, Robert E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Deep golden self; GOLDBEATER x BERKLEY GOLD: 48-16.

GOLD SMOKE. TB34-LaM-Ys1; (Clarke, Stanley C.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Smoky yellow self; ANITA CATHERINE x Unknown.

GRACIOUS LADY. TB36-M-BM1; (Taylor, Carl C.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Medium blue self; Parentage unknown. S & R GRACIOUS LADY; Taylor, Carl C.; Reg. 1945; N.I.

GRAND CHIEF. TB33-M-OD3; (Stevens, Jean; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light & dark copper bitone; Parentage unknown: #IV-232.

GRATITUDE. TB36-M-VRL1; (Snyder, W. S.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950

- Snyder). Tall bearded; Antique fuchsia self; #P35 x BEAUTIFUL GALATEA.
- GRAY DAWN. AC12-M-WNT1; (Curtis, Mrs. Julian; Reg. 1950). California; Opalescent gray self; ORCHID SPRITE x YELLOW OPAL.
- GRECIAN ROBE. TB38-M-VL1; (Sapp, Mrs. J. A.; Reg. 1950;. Tall bearded; Hyacinth violet self; SNOW FLURRY x CLOUD CASTLE.
- GROS GRAIN. OP30-M-VL/V2; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950; Craig)..Pro-cyclus; Pale lilac & violet; WM. MOHR x (PURISSIMA x GUDRUN).
- GYPSY TRAIL. TB30-M-W/VR2; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & purple plicata; GYPSY x GRACE BALLARD.
- HAILE SELASSIE II. AH34-M-RVDy1; (Trichell, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Dark red-violet self, gold signal; HAILE SELASSIE x DARK MYSTERY.
- HAPPY TALK. TB34-M-Y/R2; (Ollman, Marie; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow & burgundy plicata; ELSA EASS x CORITICA.
- HARVEST BLUE. IB18-ERe-BVM1; (Brown, G. Percy; Reg. 1950). Intermediate; Deep blue-violet self; AUTUMN SUNSET x (MISSOURI x ?).
- HAUNTING MELODY. TB36-M-VRD1wb; (Roberts, Edwin; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Wine purple self; SNOW FLURRY x MINNIE COLQUITT.
- HAWKS HILL. TB36-M-BVD1; (Murrell, Olive; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Murrell). Tall bearded; Deep violet self; INDIAN HILLS x INDIAN HILLS.
- HAZEL REED. TB44-La-RODy1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Henna self, yellow influence; PRAIRIE SUNSET x SULTANS ROBE.
- HEADLANDS. TB50-E-VB1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Hyacinth blue self; (ACROPOLIS x DESTINY) x GREAT LAKES.
- HEATH CREST. TB38-M-RP1; (Whiting, Agnes; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Whiting). Tall bearded; Mallow pink self; NYLON x Loomis SQ72: #47-9.
- HIGH TOR. TB42-La-BV1; (Fielding, Roy W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Blue violet self; SNOW FLURRY x AZURE SKIES.
- HONEY BUN. TB34-M-Y/OD2; (Ollman, Marie; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow & brown plicata; ELSA SASS x CORITICA.
- HOT COPPER. TB30-La-RO1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Orange copper self; PRAIRIE SUNSET x AMBER GEM.
- HUMMING BIRD. TB40-M-OYL/Wy4; (Knowlton, Harold W.; Reg.

- 1950). Tall bearded; Pale buff & white bicolor; SNOW FLURRY x DAYBREAK: 45-9B.
- ICE MAIDEN. TB38-M-VL1; (Graves, Robert J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Orchid blue self; HELEN MCKENZIE x MOUNT JEFFERSON: #47-3A.
- IDA JACK HALL. AH36-M-RD1; (Trichel, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Maroon-red self; Unknown parentage.
- INSIGNIA. TB38-M-W/Y5; (Snyder, W. S.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Snyder). Tall bearded; White & yellow blend; Snyder seedling x Snyder seedling.
- IRISH HOLIDAY. TB28-La-W/VR2; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & purple plicata; ELSA SASS x MISS AMERICA.
- IRISH LUCK. TB28-M-OP/YL3; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Cream & yellow bitone; Ohl #4032 x Hall #43-04.
- JAN HESS. TB38-LaM-BL1; (Graves, Robert J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light blue self; HELEN MCKENZIE x JANE PHILLIPS: #46-121G.
- JATAKA OF NAGASENA. OXB30-E-V/VD3; (White-Lothrop; Reg. 1950). Oncobred; Violet & purple bitone; Parentage unknown.
- JEMMY O'GOBLIN. AC14-E-Yyl; (Fothergill, H. Senior; Reg. 1950). California; Chinese yellow, golden flush; *innominata* x *douglasiana*.
- JOYOUS CAVALIER. AJ40-EM-3W/RV2; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; White edge purple; AI-FUKURIN x Payne #14.
- JUDITH ELLEN. TB34-M-YD1; (Belsley, Ray J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Cavalry yellow self; GOLDEN EAGLE x Unknown.
- KAPOSIA. TB36-VLa-OR1; (Anderson, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Henna self; AMITOLA x (PRAIRIE SUNSET x TOKEN).
- KERLIELLO. TB36-E/M-YL1; (Dolman, John; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light chrome self; D. F. Hall #44-55 x LUDMILLA.
- KIKI. TB38-M-BL1; (Graves, Robert S.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Columbine blue self; HELEN MCGREGOR x GREAT LAKES: #46-62B. S & R KIKI; Graves; Reg. 1937; N.I.
- KIM. TB38-LaM-W/VL2; (McKee, W. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & lavender plicata; WO-PEEN x white seedling.
- LA CRESENDA. TB36-La-Y/RL5; (Barnewitz, Fred; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pink & yellow blend; MIDWAY x STAINED GLASS.
- LADY CHARTREUSE. TB38-M-OYL1; (Harrell, Mildred; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Cream self; CHINA MAID x unknown.
- LADY ILSE. TB41-LaM-BVL1; (Smith, Kenneth D.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Soft blue-violet self; JANE PHILLIPS x KEENE VALLEY: #48-34.

- LADY SWEET. TB-36-M-RP1; (Hall, David F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Baby ribbon pink self; SUNRAY x Hall #46-42.
- LA LUZ. TB36-LaM-YM1; (Clarke, Stanley C.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Mimosa yellow self; HAPPY DAYS x Unknown.
- LENORA. AH34-M-RP/RD3; (Gorton, Clare R.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pale pink & wine bitone; MARY DABAILLON x TRICHEL PINK.
- LES EOLIDES. TB32-M-RVL1; (Williams, Adelaide; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pink-mauve self; GUDRUN x GLORIOLE.
- LEPRECHAUN. AC10-E-ORDY1; (Fothergill, H. Senior; Reg. 1950). California; Mahogany brown, edged yellow; *innominata* x *douglasiana*.
- LILLIAN BOULDIN. AH34-ELa-R/Y5; (Trichel, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Rose & tan blend; (Giganticaerulea Alba x fulva) x GC Alba.
- LILT. TB36-M-VBL1; (Perry, Paul; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Perry). Tall bearded; Light violet blue self; SHINING WATERS x BANDMASTER.
- LINDORA. TB38-LaM-Y/Wy4 (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; Yellow & white bicolor, gold edged; #45-63 x 45-83:48-174.
- LORNA MARY. TB32-M-YD/OL4; (Hall, Roy H.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Amber & salmon bicolor; MISS CALIFORNIA x DOLLY MADISON.
- LOTTE LEMBRICH. TB37-M-RVL1tb; (Lapham, E. G.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Soft lilac self; Lapham E-4 x PARADISE PINK.
- LOUISE STRANDER; DB7-EM-YM1; (Strander, John B.; Reg. 1950). Dwarf bearded; Barium yellow self; applanate; Parentage unknown.
- LOUISIANA DELIGHT. AH38-EM-RL1; (Arceneaux, Mrs. Edgar; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Dusty pink self; Parentage unknown.
- LOUISIANA PURCHASE. AH27-M-YPy1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Ivory self, gold signal; Parentage unknown.
- LOUISIANA SPRING. AH36-M-YM1; (Gorton, Clare R.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Soft maize yellow self; Parentage unknown.
- MAGIC MIST. TB36-E/La-OL1; (Tompkins, SC. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light orange-buff self; CHANSONETTE x TUNISIAN GOLD.
- MAGIC SAILS. TB36-EM-BL1; (Nesmith, Elizabeth N.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Flax blue self; HELEN MCGREGOR x SAINT REGIS: #45-33N.
- MAPLE FLAME. TB36-La-YD/R4; (Whiting, Agnes; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Whiting). Tall bearded; Caramel & cardinal bicolor; PRAIRIE SUNSET x VEISHEA: #46-76.
- MARA OF BENARES. OXB-E-Y/R4; (White-Lothrop; Reg. 1950).

- Oncobred; Aniline yellow & red-brown bicolor; Parentage unknown: #16B49-100.
- MARJIE. TB38-M-YD1; (De Forest, Fred; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 De Forest). Tall bearded; Deep yellow self; TIFFANJA x TOBACCO ROAD: #6-47.
- MATT BISHOP. TB27-M-Wy1; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White self, flushed yellow; MATTERHORN x MISS BISHOP.
- MAXWELTON. TB38-EM-Y/YD5; (Norton-Maxwell; Reg. 1950). Tall Bearded; Gold & Tan blend; (ALEXIA x Unknown) x CASCADE SPLENDOR.
- MEDICINE MAN. TB39-M-OYD1; (Graves, Robert J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Bright copper self; AUBURN x BRYCE CANYON: #47-44A.
- MICKE. TB34-M-OYD1; (Maples-Rees; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Bright russet self; JEAN CAYEUX x (RED DOMINION x Seedling).
- MIDNIGHT STORM. AH27-M-BVDy1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Midnight blue-violet; lemon signal; *hex-osa* x HAILE SELASSIE.
- MISS SYRACUSE. AH36-EM-RV1; (Burgess, Alan F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Imperial purple self; GUDRUN x PINK OPAL.
- MOLTEN. TB34-LaM-RM/ODv5; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Rose brown, violet blend; PRAIRIE SUNSET x SULTANS ROBE.
- MOONLIT GOLD. TB40-La-YP/YD3; (Fraim, Irving W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Cream & gold bitone; SUNNY RUFFLES x VISION FUGITIVE.
- MOUNT SHAVANO. TB40-M-OYLy1; (Shulenburg, H. M.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Cream self, yellow infusion; (?? x HAPPY DAYS) x TREASURE ISLAND.
- MRS. DOUGLAS PATTISON. TB36-LaM-BL1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Cornflower blue self; MOUNTAIN SKY x (Sdlg. x GREAT LAKES).
- MUCH ADO. TB40-M-Ww1; (Graves, Robert J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Clear white self; LADY BOSCAWEN x SNOW CARNIVAL: #47-31A. S & R MUCH ADO; Graves; Reg. 1941; N.I.
- NAKATOSH. AH34-M-RDy1; (Trichell, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Dark red self; gold signal; ABBEVILLE RED x LILYANA.
- NAPPAWALLA. TB37-M-YP1; (Cramer, M. O.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pale yellow self; Yellow plicata x White plicata.
- NEBRASKA SUNSET. TB37-M-OYD1; (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; Golden tan self; TOBACCO ROAD x #43-40:48-175.

NICKI NOREEN. TB34-EM-YW1; (Patrick, Ruby; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow self, white infusion; SOUTHLAND x CHINA MAID.

NIGHT MOTH. OP38-E-RVP/V2; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Pro-cyclis; Pale wisteria, violet veins; (ADVANCE GUARD x M2-21) x JUMNA.

NIGHT MUSIC. AJ38-LaM-6BVD1; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Dark blue-violet self; WAREI-HOTEI x Payne #3.

NIGHT WIND. TB29-La-VL/VR3; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lavender & purple bitone; Small seedling x MELITZA.

NIXIANNA. TB42-M-RM/RD3; (Rees, George N.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Rose & garnet bitone; FRIEDA MOHR x MAPLES 35-41.

NORTHWESTERN. TB40-MLa-VD1; (Cook, Franklin; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Royal purple self; GULF STREAM x BLUE GLOW.

OCTOBER SHADOWS. TB34-ERe-VL3; (Brown, G. Percy; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lavender & gray bitone; SEPTEMBER SPARKLER x AUTUMN SUNSET.

OLIVE EVA. DB8-M-YGDv1; (Christenson, Ethel; Reg. 1950). Dwarf bearded; Olive self, plum shading; FLORIDA x DR. MANN.

ORCHID MIST. TB36-M-RVL1; (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; Bright lavender self; 46-248 x (FLORA ZENOR x ??).

ORGANDY RUFFLES. TB36-M-Ww1; (Anderson, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White self; GLORIOLE x GUDRUN.

OSSARIO. TB35-M-ORD/RD3; (Cramer, M. O.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Red brown & dark red bitone; CHEERIO x OSSAR.

PAGAN ROYAL. TB36-M-BVD1; (Douglas, Geddes; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Blue violet self; GULF STREAM x (THE BISHOP x THE BLACK DOUGLAS).

PALE HANDS. AH36-M-YP/RLy5; (Conger, Sidney L.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; cream & pink blend; yellow signal; NEW ORLEANS x Unknown.

PALI OF BACTRIA. OXB-E-VL/VR4; (White-Lothrop; Reg. 1950). Oncobred; Lavender & red bicolor; Parentage unknown: 12B49-100.

PANAMERICAN. TB38-M-YD/ROL5; (Schirmer, Carl O.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Tan, peach & mauve blend; TOBACCO ROAD x FORTUNE.

PANAY. TB36-M-W/Y4; (McKee, W. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & yellow bicolor; FAIRDAY x FAIRDAY.

PANORAMA. TB36-EM-YD/YBR; (Schirmer, Carl O.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Golden tan, blue, peach blend; PRAIRIE SUNSET x MAJENICA.

- PAROWAN. TB22-E-OR/OD3; (Thorup, Herman F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Copper & dark red bitone; Red seedling x PIUTE.
- PAUL BUNYAN. TB36-M-Wwl; (Anderson, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White self; GLORIOLE x GUDRUN.
- PEARL CUP. TAB18-M-W/BL4; (Knowlton, Harold W.; Reg. 1950). Table iris; White & pale blue bicolor; AMIGO x SPUN GOLD.
- PEGGY O'NEILL. AH30-M-R/RL3; (Dormon, Caroline; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Ruby & rose bitone; OLD CORAL x PEGGY MAC.
- PEPPER. TB30-M-YL/R2; (Marx, Walter; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Marx). Tall bearded; Yellow & red plicata; SUEZ x ORLOFF.
- PERALTA. TB38-M-RL/Y5; (De Forest, Fred; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Rose & gold blend; PRAIRIE SUNSET x COPPER RIVER. S & R PERALTA; De Forest; Reg. 1947; N.I.
- PERSIAN PATTERN. OP35-EM-Y/RD2; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Pro-cyclis; Dull gold & maroon; GAY SENORITA x IB-MAC.
- PHRADIE WELLS. TB40-LaM-YD/05; (Clevenger, Lewis; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Tan & orange blend; AMITOLA x SANDALWOOD: #42-11-1.
- PILGRIM BELLE. TB48-M-VBL1; (Knowlton; Harold W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lavender-blue self; SNOW FLURRY x EASTER MORN: #45-8A.
- PINAFORE LASS. TB36-M-BV/W2; (Cook, Franklin; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Campanula violet & white; SNOW FLURRY x WHITE WEDGEWOOD.
- PINK CHAMPAIGN. TB26-La-RL1tb; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Deep pink self, tb; Loomis VQ72 x Hall 42-05.
- PINK PRELUDE. TB30-M-RL1; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Medium pink self; SPINDRIFT sdlg. x MELITZA sdlg.
- PINK SAILS. TB36-M-RL1; (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; Medium pink self; 45-134 x SUNSET SERENADE: #48-27.
- POISE. TB34-LaM-RL1; (Allen, Robert E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dianthus pink self; CLAIMANT x ROSE SPLENDOR.
- PONDER. TB38-EM-BL1; (McKee, W. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light blue self; (HELEN MCGREGOR x BLUE ANGELWINGS) x H.M.
- PORT WINE. TB36-M-W/RV2 (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; White & red-violet plicata; 45-47 x STARLESS NIGHT: #48-102.
- PRECISELY. TB32-La-BD1; (Dolman, John; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Deep slate blue self; CAPTAIN FLINT x MATI HARI.
- PRIMROSE HILL. TB40-M-YL1; (Drewett, A. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Primrose yellow self; WHITE CITY x MOONLIGHT MADONNA.
- PRIMUS. DB6-EE-Y/RD4; (Welch, Walter; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950

- Welch). Dwarf bearded; Yellow & red bicolor; Welch D-516 x Cook 1546.
- PROSPECTOR. TB34-E-Y/OY3; (Kleinsorge, R. E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Cooley). Tall bearded; Yellow & yellow-orange bitone; PRINCE OF ORANGE x K258.
- PURPLE FLASH. TB40-EM-VR/VRD3; (Lyell, R. L.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Lyell). Tall bearded; Violet-red bitone; INDIAN HILLS x SABLE.
- QUAPAW TRIBE. AH27-M-ROy1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Copper-rose self, gold signal; LOUISE AUSTIN x CARDINALIS.
- QUEEN'S TASTE. TB38-M-VRL/RM3; (Douglas, Geddes; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lavender pink & rose red bitone; CRITERION x OLYMPIAN.
- QUICKSILVER. TB36-BP1; (Schreiner, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pale silver-blue self; DISTANCE x CHIVALRY.
- RADIANT GOLD. TB35-EM-YM1; (Anderson, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Bright golden self; GOLDEN HIND x RADIANT.
- RED HERALD. TB33-M-RL/RD3; (Brummitt, Leonard W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pink & ruby bitone; ORANGE GLOW x RHAPSODY.
- REGATTA. TB36-M-Ww1; (Cousins, L. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Clear white self; from a white line.
- RENO. TB38-M-YL1; (Moore, K. S.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lemon yellow self; TIFFANY x ORLOFF.
- REX. AH38-M-RP/RL3; (Gorton, Clare R.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Pink & raspberry bitone; MARY DEBAILLON x TRICHEL PINK.
- RHYTHM (TB24-M-RV1A; (Ballard, W. R.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Red-violet self, appanate; (ALCAZAR x ARCHEVEQUE) x CANDELABRA.
- RIGHT ROYAL. TB36-M/VLa-RM1; (Wills, J. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Rose red self; PRAIRIE SUNSET x LANCASTER: #70-47.
- RIMROCK. TB40-M-Y/RD2; (Moore, K. S.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow & red plicata; TIFFANY x MME. LOUIS AUREAU.
- RIPPLED ICE. AH36-M-Wg1; (Debaillon-Dormon; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; White self, green infusion; Collected.
- RIPPLES. TB36-EM-VL/YL2; (Linse, Jack G.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Old lilac, olive edge; ORMOHR x SNOQUALMIE: #50-OS-2.
- ROSA BARONE. TB37-M-RP1tb; (Lapham, E. G.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Soft pink self, tb; BONNY x PARADISE PINK.
- ROSE CAVALIER. AJ46-EM-3VD/W2; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Prune purple, white edged; Payne #23 x Payne #87.
- ROSEDALE. TB34-LaM-RL1tb; (Hall, David F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Rose self, tb; (CHANTILLY x FANTASY) x FANTASY.

- ROSE MAYBUD. TB36-EM-RL1; (Dolman, John; Reg. 1950); Tall bearded; Pale rose-pink self; KATHY DEE x Hall #46-07.
- ROSE MEDALLION. TB29-M-RL-R3; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pink & rose bitone; Covert 45-504 x FLORA ZENOR.
- ROSE TAFFETA. TB42-MLa-VRL1; (Moore, K. S.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Violet-rose self; BALDWIN x JOYCETTE.
- ROYAL ACCENT. OP28-MLa-VLvl; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Pro-cyclis; Light purple, violet signal; SNOQUALMIE x CAPITOLA.
- ROYAL BAND. TB34-MRe-W/VR2; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; White & violet red plicata; MME. LOUIS AUREAU x (TIFFANY x L.A.)
- ROYAL DUKE. TB40-M-VR1; (Lyell, R. L.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950; Lyell). Tall bearded; Deep violet-red self; INDIAN HILLS x SABLE.
- ROYAL ENSIGN. AS38-M-VRb2; (Hall-Nesmith; Reg. 1950). Sibirica; Violet red, blue heart; RED EMPEROR x Unknown.
- ROYAL ERMINE. TB40-M-Wyl; (Goodman, Richard; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White self, yellow influence; SNOQUALMIE x FAY seedling.
- ROYAL GIANT. TB40-M-VL/VD3; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Purple bitone; (ACBOPOLIS x TIFFANY) x INSPIRATION.
- ROYAL PURPLE. TB38-M-VR1; (Perry, Paul; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Perry). Tall bearded; Violet-red self (Royal Purple); PURPLE MOOR x INDIAN HILLS.
- ROYAL WISH. TB38-EM-YD/RL5; (Norton-Maxwell; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Golden & light rose blend; RAINBOW ROOM x OLA KALA.
- RUBY LIGHT. TB40-M-RM1; (Mark, Walter; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Marx). Tall bearded; Near crimson self; JERRY x GOLDEN FLARE.
- RUFFLED BONNET. TB38-M-BVL1; (Lyell, R. L.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Lyell). Tall bearded; Lavender self; (PURISSIMA x SEASHELL) x Unknown.
- RYDAL WATER. TB34-E-BP1; (Randall, H. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pale blue self; HELEN MCGREGOR x blue seedling.
- SABLE NIGHT. TB36-EM-VD1; (Cook, Paul H.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Black purple self; Cook seedling x SABLE.
- SAZONADA. TB38-MLa-Wwlwb; (Reeves, Mrs. J. Louis; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pure white self; SNOW FLURRY x KATHERINE FAY.
- SCHERZO. AJ42-LaM-3DVw2; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Purple, white splashed; AI-FUKURIN x FANNY HAMLET CHILDS
- SEATTLE CENTENNIAL. TB48-M-YD1; (Strander, John B.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow-tan self; JEAN GAYEUX x NOONTIDE.

- SHADY LADY. TB38-LaM-VP/VD5; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Mauve & violet blend; PRAIRIE SUNSET x SULTANS ROBE.
- SHANUNGA PURPLE. TB40-M-VRD1; (Tobie-Tobie; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dark red violet self; (DOWN EAST x SMOLDER) x (SABLE x DOWN EAST).
- SIBYL SAMPLE. AH36-EM-R1; (Trichel, Lillian; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Nesmith). Louisiana; Mahogany-rose self; PATTERN x Giganticaerulea Alba).
- SIDE GLANCES. TB36-M-YM1; (Brees, Henry M.; Reg. 1950). Tall Bearded; Medium yellow self; SNOQUALMIE x (SANDALWOOD x AMITOLA).
- SIEGMUND. TB42-La-Y/W4; (Williams, Adelaide B.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow & white bicolor; SHIRVAN x SNOWKING.
- SILVER CREST. AJ46-MLa-6VP/VD2; (Payne, W. A.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Payne). Japanese; Pale violet, violet veined; Payne #63 x Payne #17.
- SILVER PLATTER. TB45-M-BP1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Silver blue self; (ACROPOLIS x DESTINY) x GREAT LAKES.
- SKY LANTERN. TB36-LaM-BMy1; (Fraim, Irving W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Medium blue self, yellow influence; GOLDBEATER x Unknown.
- SKY PILOT. TB48-M-BP1; (Benbow, Mary; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pale blue self; BLUE MORN x GREAT LAKES.
- SNOWSHEEN. TB36-M-Ww1; (Sass, Henry E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Sass). Tall bearded; Clear white self; Miles #2 Blue x Alba Superba: 48:67.
- SO BIG DALLAS. TB48-La-YD/RL5; (Whiting-Crow; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Crow). Tall bearded; Buff & mallow blend; PRAIRIE SUNSET x GYPSY ROSE.
- SPELLBOUND. TB40-E/La-R/Y5; (Linse, Jack G.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Red & gold blend; TOBACCO ROAD x PRAIRIE SUNSET.
- SPICE OF LIFE. TB34-M-GYD1; (DeForest Fred; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Old gold self; (ADELANTO x ? ?) x (COPPER RIVER x ? ?).
- SPRING MELODY. TB34-M-GYD1; (Miess, Elma; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dandelion yellow self; Miess 547B x OLA KALA: 168C.
- SPRING SORCERY. AH33-E-YO1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Golden apricot self; *hexagona* x *foliosa*.
- SUMMER SONG. TB40-M-OY1; (Nesmith, Elizabeth N.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Orange buff self; (SUNSET SERENADE x SEQUATCHIE) x BRYCE CANYON. S & R SUMMER SONG; Nesmith; Reg. 1948; N.I.
- SUN AND SHADOW; AB48-M-VP/Y5; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int.

- 1950 Craig). Spuria; Lavender grey & yellow blend; **RUSSET FLAME** x yellow sdlg.
- SUN SHADE.** TB30-La-Ys1; (Small, Robert; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Overcast yellow self; **KALINGA** x **Lapham G12**.
- SURETY.** TB36-LaM-YD1; (Allen, Robert E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Deep yellow self; **CYNAstra** x **GOLDBEATER**.
- SUSIE KLINE.** AH34-M-RVLy1; (Trichel, Lillian H.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Rose-mauve self; gold crest; **LILYANA** x **BAYOU VERMILION**.
- SWEETBRIAR.** TB32-M-RL1; (Whiting, Agnes; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950; Whiting). Tall bearded; Rose pink self; **MATULA** x **PRAIRIE SUNSET**: 42:30
- SWEET BUTTER.** AB55-M-YL1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Spuria; (Cream yellow self; yellow sdlg. x **SUNNY DAY**.
- TEMPLE.** TB40-M-OD1; (McKee, W. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Deep orange self; (**ORANGE GEM** x **MOONTIDE**) x **JERICHO**.
- TEMPLE BELLS.** TB35-M-RL1tb; (Hall, David F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Raspberry pink self; **FUCHSIA** x Hall 48-40.
- TEMPLE SQUARE.** TB43-E-VP1; (Naylor, M. D.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pale lavender self; **SNOW FLURRY** x **LEILANI**.
- TENSLEEP.** TB36-LaM-W/B2; (Moore, K. S.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & blue plicata; **TIFFANY** x **CINNAMON BEAR**.
- THANKSGIVING FIRELIGHT.** TB36-MRe-OY/RD4; (Austin, Lloyd; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Austin). Tall bearded; Orange-yellow & crimson bicolor; Parentage unknown.
- TINTED FRILLS.** TB35-M-W/VPR2; (Robinson, Elizabeth; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & orchid plicata; **BALLET GIRL** x **NOWETA**.
- THE KIMLARK.** TB36-M-VL1; (Raboin, Marie; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lavender self, gold netted; **LAVENDER** & **GOLD LACE** x **CHANTILLY**.
- THE MAD HATTER.** TB40-LaM-R/RD3; (Lyon, David W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Red & maroon bitone; **RANGER** x **CORDOVAN**: D204-47-7.
- THORWALD.** TB38-M-OD1; (Knowlton, Harold W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Orange tan self; **PRINCE OF ORANGE** x **REDYEN**: 45-11A.
- THOTMES III.** TB40-La-YD1; (Kleinsorge, R. E.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Cooley). Tall bearded; Golden brown self; **MEXICO** x Kleinsorge 314.
- TIDEWATER** AH27-La-VBLy1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Lavender blue self, gold signal; *hexagona* x *foliosa*.
- TOPS.** TB36-La-Y/Wy4; (Schirmer, Carl O.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow & white bitone; **GOLDBEATER** x **MIDWEST GEM**.
- TRANQUIL DALE.** AC13-E-RLv1; (Fothergill, H. Senior; Reg. 1950).

California; Pastel pink, flushed heliotrope; *innominata* x *douglasiana*.
TRANQUILITY. TB38-M-Mwl; (Fay, Orville W.; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Fay). Tall bearded; Pure white self; **SNOW FLURRY** x **KATHERINE FAY**.
TWILIGHT REVERIE. AH27-M-RV_{Ly}1; (Chowning, Frank E.; Reg. 1950). Louisiana; Rose-lavender self, gold signal; **LOUISE AUSTIN** x Unknown.
TWOSOME. TB35-M-Y/B4; (Harrell, Mildred; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Mustard yellow & blue bicolor; **MEXICO** x **OREGON TRAIL**.
VALLEJO. TB40-E-VRL/VR3; (Barnewitz, Fred; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lavender & violet red bitone; **EAST-WEST** x **BENECIA LASS**.
VANDAX. TB36-M-W/Y4; (McKee, W. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White & yellow bicolor; **FAIRDAY** x (**FAIRDAY** x McKee 45-11).
VANITY FAIR. TB36-M-RL₁tb; (Hall David F.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Medium pink self, tb; **CHERIE** x **FANTASY**.
VELVET MANTILLA. TB40-M-RVD₁; (Lyell, R. L.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dark red-violet self; **THE RED DOUGLAS** x **SABLE**.
VERITY. TB36-M-RL/RM3; (Perry, Paul; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Perry). Tall bearded; Pink & rose bitone; **SHANNOPIN** x **LOTHARIO**.
VICTORIAN VEIL. TB44-La-RVL/RV2; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Rose & violet plicata; (**ADVANCE GUARD** x M2-21) x Craig sdlg.
VINAYA OF SHANKARA. OXB40-E-YL/YOD5; (White-Lothrop; Reg. 1950). Oncobred; Gray, yellow & brown blend; Parentage unknown.
VIRGINIA MANSFIELD. TB30-LaM-RM₁; (Nies, Eric; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Medium red self; **NORDIC** x (**CHEERIO** x Unknown).
WAR CRY. TB38-M-OM₁; (Tompkins, C. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Ochre-orange self; **JASPER AGATE** x **HONEYFLOW**.
WAUMBEEK. TB45-M-VBL₁; (Knowlton, Harold W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Lavender blue self; **BLUE RHYTHM** x **CHIVALRY**: #48-28A.
WELCOME GUEST. TB38-E/La-YD₁; (Linse, Jack G.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Amber gold self; **TREVA** x **TOBACCO ROAD**: #48-7.
WELL CONTENT. TB36-MLa-ORL₁; (Wills, J. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Salmon rose self; (**CHOSEN** x **CONESTOGA**) x **PRAIRIE SUNSET** sdlg.
WESAMEQUIN. TB36-M-ROL/ROD3; (Brown, G. Percy; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light & dark brown bitone; Brown sdlg x Brown sdlg.
WESTERN STAR. TB34-M-YD/RM5; (Wills, J. E.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Copper & rose blend; Wills sdlg. x **COPPER ROSE**: #40-44.
WHISPERS. TB42-M/La-YW4; (Linse, Jack G.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Yellow & white bicolor; **JASMINE** x **BLUE RHYTHM**: #48-10.

WHITE FLAME. TB34-M-Wb1; (Brown, G. Percy; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White self, blue infusion; ALLUMEUSE x SNOW CARNIVAL.

WHITE GHYLL. TB36-La-Ww1; (Randall, H. J.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pure white self; HELEN MCGREGOR x white sdlg.

WHITE MAGIC. TB38-M-Wb1; (Schirmer, Carl O; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; White self, blue infusion; SNOW FLURRY x KATHERINE FAY.

WHITE PEACOCK. TB40-M-Ww1; (Pattison, Mrs. Douglas; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pure white self; LADY BOSCAWEN x KATHERINE FAY. S & R WHITE PEACOCK; Faught; Reg. 1944; N.I.

WHITE SATIN. TB38-M-Ww1; (Suiter, Mrs. Glen; Reg. 1950). Tall Bearded; Pure white self; BLUE CHAMPAIGNE x SYLVIA MURRAY.

WHITE SHEPHERDESS. TB38-M-Ww1; (Sapp, Mrs. J. A.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pure white self; SNOW FLURRY x CLOUD CASTLE.

WHITE SPRITE. TB37-M-Ww1; (Cassebeer, F. W.; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Pure white self; AND THOU x AZURE SKIES.

WILMA VALLETTE. TB40-La-RDw1; (Craig, Tom; Reg. 1950; Int. 1950 Craig). Tall bearded; Burgandy self, white influence; RICH RAIMENT x JOSEPH'S MANTLE.

WISSINOMING. TB39-EM-BVL1; (Dolman, John; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light blue-lavender self; Dolman#287 x SHINING WATERS.

WRATH. TB34-LaM-VD1; (Perry, Paul; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Dark violet self; BLACK FOREST x INDIANA NIGHT.

XENON. TB36-E-YL1; (Perry, Paul; Reg. 1950). Tall bearded; Light yellow self; JASMINE x MISTY GOLD.

YANKEE. TB38-M-W/BV1; White & blue-violet bicolor; EXTRAVAGANZA x CHOIR BOY.

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BULLETIN

A of the
AMERICAN
IRIS SOCIETY

OCTOBER - 1951

NUMBER 123



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FOREWORD

One of the tools of our trade is a special set of words used to describe the several iris patterns. These terms are apt to be confusing at best, and lately several new pattern variations have appeared to confound the situation. To review some of our specialized terminology we have four general color patterns, *self*, *bitone*, *bicolor* and *plicata*.

A *self* is defined as an iris in which the standards and falls are of equal intensity of the same color or hue. By the same token a *bitone* would be an iris of one color but having falls of greater color intensity than the standards. Usage has determined this arrangement. A *reverse bitone* would be where the standards rather than the falls carry the color in greater intensity. Further, a *bicolor* is defined as an iris where the standards are of one color or hue and the falls of another and different color. *Plicata* is a term used to describe an iris with a self ground color, but where the sap color appears in a certain design such as dotting, stitching or stippling.

Within the four general divisions there are specialized variations. Thus, we have had a normal progression of terms to describe selfs where several colors were blended—squalens, blend and polychrome.

A bitone exhibiting falls edged in the same color as the standards is known as a *neglecta*. In the bicolor classification there are two generally accepted specialized terms. First is *variegata*—a term derived from color pattern of the species *I. variegata* where the standards are colored with plastid yellow and the falls are colored with anthocyanin or sap color. Thus the standards may be any tint or shade of yellow and the falls may vary from blue to purple, to red, to bronze and the definition still holds good.

In certain instances in the formation of variegatas, some sort of genetic disturbance may cause the gene for yellow to drop out. This leaves the iris with white standards and with red, blue or purple falls. This subdivision of the bicolor is known as the *amoena*. The falls of the amoena may or may not be edged with white.

Recently a new combination has appeared typified by the iris Pinnacle. The Bulletin has received numerous comments on this variety describing it as an amoena. Editorially, we respectfully ask if this term is correct. Genetically, the amoena is an iris where the gene for yellow has disappeared leaving both the standards and falls devoid of yellow. Obviously, Pinnacle does not fit this classification for its falls are yellow.

If Pinnacle is not a real amoena, then the question naturally comes up as to whether or not we should coin a new term to classify this color pattern. It is a question that should be decided because irises of the Pinnacle type seem to be very popular and should follow the tangerine bearded pinks in popularity as subjects for breeding.

American Iris Society

A W A R D S 1 9 5 1

348 Ballots received. Total number of accredited judges 470.

DYKES MEDAL

<i>Variety</i>	<i>Originator</i>	<i>Votes</i>
Cherie	D. Hall	76

Runners Up

Amandine	G. Douglas	36
New Snow	Fay	36
Spanish Peaks	Loomis	27
Argus Pheasant	De Forest	23
Dreamcastle	P. Cook	19
Desert Song	Fay	17

AWARD OF MERIT

1. Pinnacle	Stevens	166
2. Pink Formal	Muhlestein	156
3. Truly Yours	Fay	105
4. Heritage	D. Hall	90
5. Cahokia	Faught	87
6. Sunset Blaze	Kleinsorge	83
7. Goldbeater	Kleinsorge	63
8. Vice-Regal	Miles	62
9. Star Shine	Wills	60
10. Cordovan	Kleinsorge	58
Staten Island	K. D. Smith	58
12. Danube Wave	Schreiner	57
Rainbow Room	J. Sass	57
The Capitol	Maxwell-Norton	57
Lilac Lane	Whiting	57

RUNNERS UP

Harriet Thoreau	P. Cook	55
Zantha	Fay	54
Arab Chief	Whiting	53
Red Torch	H. Sass	53
Lothario	Schreiner	51

This outstanding national award is given to the twelve leading varieties; as four iris tied for last place, under the rules the award is given to all of them.

HONORABLE MENTION

Tall bearded; Twelve Votes Required

<i>Variety</i>	<i>Originator</i>	<i>Votes</i>
Alicia	Rawlins	12
Alline Rogers	Kleinsorge	13
Apricot Glory	Muhlestein	13
Apricot Supreme	Tompkins	20
Ballerina	D. Hall	28
Black Hills	Fay	16
Black Satin	Nesmith	18
Blue Blazes	Welch	13
Caroline Jane	De Forest	13
Chinook Pass	Norton	12
Chiquita	Knowlton	23
Cloudcap	De Forest	52
Frost Glint	Whiting	12
Golden Plover	De Forest	13
Heather Rose	D. Hall	17
Honor Bright	De Forest	24
Jack Frost	Corey	16
Kezar Lake	Knowlton	23
Laddie	Miess	19
Lady Dozier	Dozier	16
Magic Sails	Nesmith	14
Mary Randall	Fay	30
Mrs. Douglas Pattison	Craig	12
New Hope	De Forest	19
Northwestern	F. Cook	17
One Clear Call	Tompkins	15
Party Dress	Muhlestein	18
Pink Bountiful	P. Cook	12
Prospector	Kleinsorge	29
Raspberry Ribbon	Schreiner	25
Ruth	Innes	19
Sarah Lee Shields	Graves	12
Savage	Craig	16
Solid Gold	Kleinsorge	14
Sunray	D. Hall	28
The Mad Hatter	Lyon	17
Thotmes III	Kleinsorge	51

HONORABLE MENTION—Continued

Other Than Tall Bearded; 5 votes required

<i>Variety</i>	<i>Originator</i>	<i>Votes</i>
Amiguita (Douglasiana)	Nies	14
Cool Spring (Sib.)	Kellogg	5
Tropic Night (Sib.)	Morgan	5
Atroviolacea (Dwarf)	Todaro-1856	6
Olive Eva (Dwarf)	Christensen	8
Path of Gold (Dwarf)	Hodson	9
Ylo (Dwarf)	Sturtevant	5
Beautiful Melody (La.)	Chowning	10
Blue Chip (La.)	Mrs. Alex. Smith	5
Gay Deceiver (La.)	Mrs. C. C. Clark	7
Linda Leach (La.)	MacMillan	5
Royal Gem (La.) *	Mrs. Alex. Smith	15
Saucy Minx (La.)	C. Dorman	7
The Khan (La.)	C. Dorman	10
Violet Ray (La.)	C. Dorman	6
Wood Violet (La.)	R. Dorman	6
Cherokee Chief (spur.)	Nies	13
Color Guard (spur.)	Nies	13
Bronze Butterfly (spur.)	Brenan	8
Baria (Int.)	Cook, P.	8
Fairy Flax (Int.)	Cook, P.	10
Green Spot (Int.)	Cook, P.	7

* Royal Gem received the President's cup at Shreveport

CAPARNE AWARD; 7 votes required

Primus	Welch	26
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Runners Up

Keepsake	P. Cook	25
Beauty Spot	Marx	23

MORGAN AWARD

Tycoon	Cleveland	45
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Runners Up

Eric the Red	Whitney	44
Caesar's Brother	Morgan	41

MARY SWORDS DEBAILLON AWARD

Cherry Bounce	Nelson	36
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HIGH COMMENDATION

5 votes required

<i>Variety</i>	<i>Originator</i>	<i>Votes</i>
Ahoy (C-19)	Lapham	5
Azure Lake (49-10)	Muhlestein	10
Blue Steel	Fraim	10
Buttrick 48-15 A		6
Buttrick 46-94 A		10
Cape Cod (48-124)	Knowlton	8
Cliffdell	Maxwell	5
Cook, P. 4300		6
Cook, P. 8051		5
Cook, P. 9951		6
Corey L-50-1		5
Desert Twilight	Miess	7
Douglas, G. 820-A		5
Eben (5114)	McKee	7
*Echo	Kerr	5
Elfin Lake	Dolman	8
Foulger, W. B-21-C		8
Fox, E. F. 50-33		5
Fraim 48-100		5
*Frances Craig	Craig	6
Gay Spring (48-36A)	Knowlton	6
Glistening Copper (48-72)	Muhlestein	5
Glowing Gold (48-94A)	Knowlton	11
Golden Moon	Knowlton	5
High Seas	Corey	7
*Icecapade	Pierce, J.	5
*Ida Stone	Gorton	6
Larsen, C. 10-D-47		8
Larsen, C. 15-B-41		5
Lowry L-8-206		14
McKee 5110		5
McKee 5120		11
*Memphis Belle (49-08)	Pierce, J.	6
Mexiglow	Crosby	8
Moonlight Serenade (49-L-11)	Naylor	13
Muhlestein 48-89		5
Purissimohr	Weidner, E.	5
Schirmer, C. S 715		5
Schirmer, C. R 321		5
*Serene Valley (50-12)	Smith, K. D.	5

<i>Variety</i>	<i>Originator</i>	<i>Votes</i>
Snyder, 0-46		5
Spanish Cream	Dolman	6
Tompkins 49-400		5
Tompkins 49-51		8
Walker, M. 7-49		5
Watkins, E. 49-5		7
White Peacock	Mrs. D. Pattison	5
Whiting W 498		19
Whiting W 50-30		5

*Not registered as of August 1, 1951.

NEW CHECK LIST

The publication of a Check List is quite an undertaking. The last one was published in 1939 and was largely the work of Mr. Chas. E. F. Gersdorff and Mrs. Ethel Anson S. Peckham. Since 1939 if a person wished to check a name for a new variety he must necessarily search not only the 1939 Check List and the 1942 Supplement, but also seven individual Bulletins containing the yearly registrations.

Realizing the need for a one volume compilation, in 1949 the AIS Board of Directors authorized the publication of *The 1949 Check List*. Work on this publication was begun in the central office in 1950. It is now completed and the new 1949 Check List is ready for distribution. Elsewhere in this issue are complete instructions for ordering this book which, if followed, will greatly aid us in quickly and efficiently filling the flood of requests which we anticipate.

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COLOR CHART AVAILABLE

Through the kind offices of Mr. N. Leslie Cave, Hon. Treas. of The Iris Society (England), arrangements have been made whereby the Wilson Colour Chart, published by the Royal Horticultural Society, is now available to AIS members. This color chart is published in two volumes. The price for both is \$11.00 postage paid.

Make out your check to the American Iris Society and send to The Secretary, American Iris Society, Franklin Road, Brentwood, Tennessee. Delivery will be made as soon as we receive our first consignment of these color charts from London.

From Aldan to Walden And Points North

JOHN DOLMAN, JR., Penn.

People from the provinces west of the Hudson who make annual pilgrimages to New England iris gardens will often be reminded, as they drive past Walden Pond, of Thoreau's hypothetical "better mousetrap" and the world beating a path to its maker's door. Of course one may doubt whether very many of the people who create the Sunday traffic jam at the Pond are looking for better mousetraps (much less for better iris); one may even doubt whether very many of them have read Thoreau. On the other hand, one may doubt whether the few dozen iris maniacs who beat a path to the seedling patches at Worcester, Auburndale, Newton, Waltham, Reading, Concord, Lowell, and Hopkinton represent exactly what Thoreau meant by "the world." Nevertheless, his general idea that people will come a long way to see something good still holds true in the iris world—especially if the mousetrap maker is adequately publicized and lives on a superhighway not at the moment snarled up with detours.

In 1951 we even had some visitors in Region Three, though U. S. 1 is hardly a superhighway in Pennsylvania (the State of Diabolical Detours), and there are very few important seedling patches hereabouts. Our regional V.P., John Lyster, succeeded in assembling about a dozen AIS members for garden visits on May 26, starting at his own place in Aldan, Pa., with its opulent clumps of top-ranking varieties and borders of well-grown novelties. From there we migrated to Mr. Palmer's semi-wooded acre at Secane with its distant view of the Delaware River and its large collection of well-grown iris (he is the only person in this part of the world who can make Black Valor grow); thence to the formal plantings at Swarthmore College, thence to Mr. Wister's iris nursery in a field behind the College woods, and, finally to my own little back yard. We had dinner together at the Ingleneuk (with thirteen at table) and spent the rest of the evening discussing iris and Kodachrome slides at my home. As Mr. Lyster will cover these gardens in his regional report, I shall omit details.

Once again I could not go south for a pre-view. Mr. Lyster did visit Roanoke (a bit prematurely) and told me of some things he saw there; I heard, also, from the Knowltons of their trip to Shreveport and thereabouts some ten days too early (they, of course, being on schedule, the iris being late). But once again I was fortunate enough, when my own garden faded, to head for New England and enjoy the iris season all over again.

I have described New England gardens and iris personalities so often in these Bulletins that some of our members must be finding me as tiresome as the everlasting repetition of a radio commercial. They are too polite to say so, of course. Others, perhaps different in taste (or perhaps just *more* polite) do tell me that they enjoy these sidelights on people, places, and things associated with iris, and urge me not to leave them out. This time I shall try to please both parties. Under the next subtitle you will find my travelogue. If it bores you, skip it, and go on to the comments on Iris Varieties and New Seedlings under those subtitles. Of course there is no law to prevent your skipping either or both of those as well.

Iris Places and Iris People

Leaving Swarthmore early on June 1, I found myself at 6:30 A.M. in the display garden of Oliver Holton's Cherry Hill Farm, at Pleasant Valley, Pa., between Quakertown and Bethlehem. At 6:32 he invited me in for coffee and toast. Mr. Holton is a Bethlehem businessman who grows and sells iris as a side-line, and is still the hobbyist at heart. He is the only iris dealer, at present, in Region Three—the only one, at least, whose catalogue I have seen. He makes coffee as well as he grows iris, and that is saying a great deal, for I have never seen more vigorous growth or rapid increase on bearded iris anywhere. He and Mrs. Holton have a charmingly remodeled farm-house, a well landscaped garden, and a beautiful view. They also have a television set that brings in both Philadelphia and New York stations. No wonder he is in the garden from dawn to dark; I'd stay out all night.

After an hour and a half of keen enjoyment among fine irises, in perfect weather, at the very best time of the day, I headed for Easton, Phillipsburg, Washington, Hacketstown, Boonton, and Suffern, and before the morning was over I had found Fred Cassebeer (former editor of these Bulletins) at his lovely farm on the Strawtown Road some two miles north of West Nyack, N.Y. The Cassebeers are building a house overlooking their acres and acres of iris, with beautiful rolling hills about them, patches of woodland on all sides, and hardly a house in sight. They plan to give up their Nyack home, and Fred is going in for iris growing on a large scale, with some thought of making it a retirement business. The display garden of named varieties and older seedlings stretches back from the road in two wide borders for several hundred feet. In the fields away from the house the newer seedlings are grown in widely spaced rows with field cultivation, and with enough room available to give them virgin soil for years to come. When the house is finished there is to be a more intimate garden for the choicer treasures right close to the windows. Fred foresees plenty of hard work, but his sun-tanned face was all smiles when he mentioned it. The house is to be finished in September, and by next year it should begin

to look like home. This year they were receiving visitors under a canvas sun-tent, and driving back a mile or so to a snack bar for lunch.

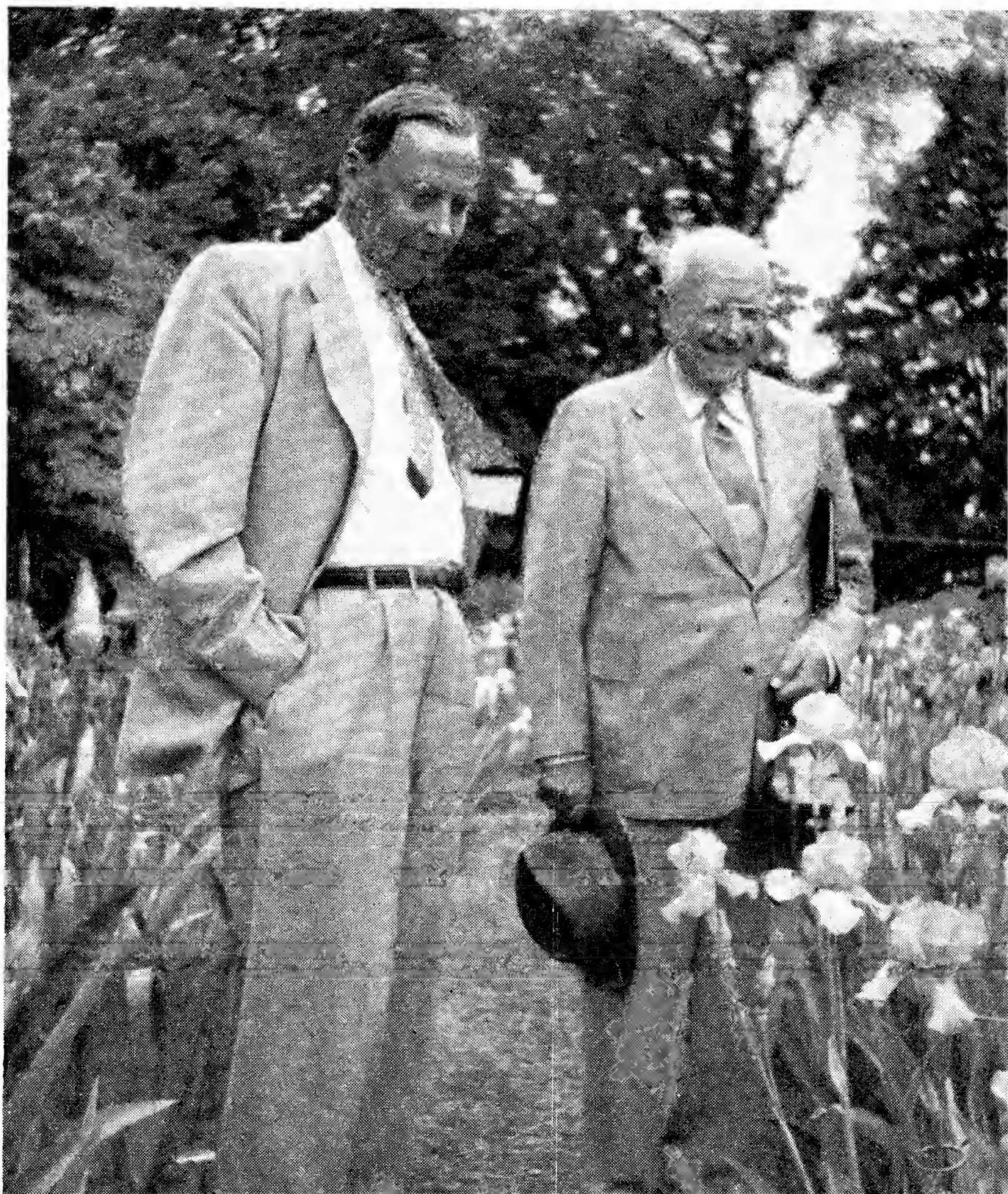
There is plenty of wind on those fields, and Fred says he is going to have to breed for strong stems. May luck be with him!

Shortly after noon I was on the move again by way of Bear Mountain Bridge and U. S. 6 to Hartford, and thence over Connecticut 15 and Massachusetts 20, to an overnight cabin near Worcester. On June 2, knowing that the Region One members were to gather at Worcester in the afternoon and that the season was already late, I took advantage of the good early morning weather and drove on for a quick look at the Knowlton garden, stopped to engage a cabin near Natick for my four-day stay in the Boston area. I was back at the Wheeler garden in Framingham before most of the visitors who were stopping there on their way to Worcester had arrived. Mr. Wheeler, as usual, had many new varieties in bloom, and excellent growth on most of the highly rated older varieties, including the best blooms I have yet seen on Chivalry. By early afternoon I was back in Worcester enjoying the McKee garden at its best.

It was good to find Mr. McKee looking healthier, browner, and five years younger than a year ago. Both he and Mrs. McKee were not only enjoying their own garden, but were able to take the trips to Concord, Lowell, Reading, Newton, and Auburndale on the days following.

The McKee garden was in excellent shape, and by mid-afternoon was full of visitors from all over Region One. As usual the interest was largely in the newest McKee seedlings, and in the remarkable growth, height, and bloom he succeeds in getting in re-worked soil. He uses some 7-9-8 commercial fertilizer, a formula much used for potatoes, but depends largely on deep digging and on winter rye, sown October 1 and turned under by hand in the spring. He is now giving his seedlings a greenhouse start in flats, and the 1952 seedlings were already growing vigorously, almost a foot high. The 1951 crop stood up to an average height of close to 40 inches, and showed almost 90% bloom.

Later in the afternoon the Knowltons arrived from Cape Cod, and after we had thoroughly discussed the McKee seedlings they kindly invited me to have dinner with them at the Abner Wheeler House on the way back to Boston. At dinner I heard much more of their trip through the south and the delightful people they had met in Shreveport and elsewhere. The Knowltons seem to like human beings almost as much as they like iris, and considered the postponement of the national meeting a blessing in disguise since it enabled them to meet so many interesting ones at more leisure than would have been possible during a convention. In the evening I took a quick look at the Lowry garden in Newton, dropped in at the Knowltons' for another brief chat, and called it a day.



Former AIS President Jesse E. Wells chats with author John Dolman as they admire ruffled and flaring iris Star Shine. —Johnson photo

Sunday morning, June 3, I had breakfast with the Knowltons, saw a fresh flower on the new amoena seedling which stole the show this year, and then headed for Lowell, where the clan was to gather at the Nesmith garden. It was another fine day and the iris, if a little past peak, were still in prime condition. Most of the Region One members were there, including Mrs. Corey, Mrs. Graves and her son, John, Mr. Buttrick, the McKees, the Knowltons, and of course Mrs. Johnson with her alarming camera that looks like some sort of a crab trap. Guests of honor were Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Wills, of Nashville. At the picnic lunch-

eon under the trees Mr. Wills and Mr. McKee, both past presidents of the AIS, addressed the members as did Mrs. Corey, the regional vice-president. Mr. Wills told us, most entertainingly, about the Shreveport meeting, the outstanding irises seen there and elsewhere, and the Louisiana personalities. The Wills's and the Knowltons had great fun comparing notes on the latter. Both had apparently fallen especially hard for Miss Caroline Dormon, and they made the rest of us feel that we, too, should like to meet her. I had not met Mrs. Wills before, except momentarily, in 1948, when the AIS descended in force on her home, and it was a pleasure this year to discover what a particularly gracious person she is.

In the afternoon we gathered again in the Buttrick garden at Concord Bridge. As usual Mr. and Mrs. Buttrick had something new to show us. They have now turned the lower walk at the foot of the hill into a paved terrace, with ornamental gateways at each end, retaining wall on the river side and iris plantings on both sides of the walk. I have Kodachromes of this walk taken from the same spot in 1950 and 1951, and the improvement is quite striking. Ordinarily my taste is not for formal gardens, but the Buttricks have the knack of *semi*-formalizing their plantings in the most artistic fashion. Well placed stone benches enable the visitors to enjoy at leisure the fine clumps of superior iris, the artful landscaping, and the sylvan beauty of the river and trees, all at the same time. I can think of no lovelier spot in the United States.

On Monday there were no scheduled visits, and I seized the opportunity to see Mrs. Corey's garden at Reading while the weather was still fine. I had missed seeing this garden in 1950, and was impressed by the progress she has made in culture and hybridizing as well as in landscaping. She is working largely with blues and whites, crossing her own lines of breeding with those of Dr. Graves; but she has also made some progress in pinks. She is now introducing and selling her own originations, and I was most interested in hearing her say that she is doing so primarily for the fun of corresponding with her customers and getting to know them. How incomprehensible that remark would be to a modern efficiency engineer, high-pressure advertising expert, or union racketeer! But how reasonable it sounds to an iris lover anywhere.

From Reading I hopped off for another visit to Mr. McKee in Worcester. Some new seedlings were out, and Mr. McKee, having fewer visitors to claim his attention, had time to sit down and talk shop. An hour's chat with him will teach you more about hybridizing than a dozen books. Some of his theories are debatable, of course, as any theories on so complex a problem are bound to be. But nobody I have met thinks more deeply about iris pedigrees or puts more brainwork into his crosses. Some may equal him; nobody surpasses him.

As usually happens when I go to Worcester, the weather changed,

and I fled before a storm, which (as I learned later), barely sprinkled the McKee garden, but chased me halfway to Boston, deluging everything within a half mile of me all the way to Natick. Through the night it rained on and off in the Boston area, and on the morning of June 5 I hurried in to see whether I could help the Knowltons and Lowrys clean up for the AIS visitation scheduled for that day. Harold Knowlton was out in a raincoat picking off dead flowers and staking wobbly stalks in a drizzling rain. He urged me to go over and help Mrs. Lowry, whose garden was first on the visiting schedule. Over there I found things in better shape; the damage had been less severe, and the Lowrys had evidently been up before breakfast. Visitors had already begun to arrive, and the attendance was good even though there were intermittent showers until noon. Though past peak, the garden was still full of good things including some new Lowry seedlings. From there we migrated to the Barker garden, where the accent is on reds and pinks, and then to the Knowltons', where the last flower on the new amoena was in fair shape. It rained a little more while some fifty of us crowded the Knowlton home to eat our picnic lunches, but cleared up fairly well for the afternoon visit to the Fraim garden in Waltham.

It was my first visit to the Fraim garden, and I deeply regret that I never got there while Dr. Fraim was still living. I kept meeting him in other gardens and planning to visit his, but it always seemed that when I was free to go to Waltham he and Mrs. Fraim would be at Newton or Auburndale, or just starting for Lowell. He always said that Mrs. Fraim was the gardener, and he the hybridizer, and certainly her garden was a beautiful sight as she led us through it on June 5. There were some fine seedlings, too, as a silent memorial to the Doctor's work.

Gorgeous Bloom in Stone Garden

On June 6, I drove to Hopkinton, N.H., stopping on the way at Ashby, Mass., to see Kenneth Stone's iris planting. Mr. Stone is an apple grower, and has a hilltop farm out in open country. He grows only a limited number of iris varieties, on a granite-walled terrace next to the barn, and in a longer border against a retaining wall nearby. He is very choosy about the varieties he will give space to, and grows only the ones he really likes. But how he grows them! He spaces the clumps four feet apart and keeps them clean and the soil mulched. Each clump is an exhibition piece. He had three plants of Pinnacle, the largest a perfectly stunning clump covered with gorgeous blooms—much the best plant of that new variety I have seen. He had two huge clumps of Pink Sensation, which in most eastern gardens is still a struggling one- or two-year plant. He had the best clumps I have seen anywhere of Voodoo, Mattie Gates, and Dreamcastle (which has been a weak grower in most eastern gardens). Kenneth appeared from behind the barn in

blue cover-alls, shook hands with me, and then fetched out the stalk of Ponder which he was keeping in the refrigerator so it would not be gone before the Region One group arrived on June 9. You will not see 300 varieties at Ashby, nor any debutante seedlings, but if you want to see perfection in iris, stop there some time.

At Hopkinton I walked into the Graves garden and got a very pleasant shock. Only three days before they had told me that Ed Watkins was still in the hospital after a long siege with more operations, and would not be able to get out to see the iris. But there he was! not only getting about on his two canes, but carrying a camp-chair with him so he could sit down and rest. Did I say rest? So he could sit down and stare at the iris and talk iris, and keep out of the way of the volunteer workers who were buzzing around with rotary mowers. (Mrs. Graves explained that the local Kiwanians had pitched in for the afternoon to help her and John get the place tidied up for the regional group visit later in the week). "The Good Lord had his chance at me this winter," said Ed, "and decided he didn't want me just yet. So I guess we'll plan a few more crosses." And that is precisely what he was doing as he chatted about breeding lines with his eye roving restlessly over the second and third generation descendants of Helen McGregor and Jane Phillips—many of them H.C.'s but still not introduced. I spent nearly two hours with him and hated to leave, but was afraid to stay longer for fear he would talk himself back into the hospital. He was still dragging his camp chair around as I rode down the hill, homeward bound, to see no more iris until 1952.

Varieties Noted in 1951

And now for some brief comments on the iris observed this year.

Of the named varieties which I saw for the first time in 1951, the most interesting to me were Pacemaker, Pink Formal, White Sprite, Raspberry Ribbon, Clear Sailing, Paradise Pink, Dolly Varden, Ballerina, Summer Song, Kiki, Campanula, Alline Rogers, Leading Lady, Cloudcap, Sunray, Captain from Castile, New Hope, Honor Bright, Gay Borders, Maytime, Truly Yours, and perhaps Spanish Peaks.

I say "perhaps" because I still do not know whether I have seen Spanish Peaks. I saw irises so labeled in four gardens this year, and no two were alike. None was as bad as the one I saw last year; that was white all over, but had excessively long falls, an ugly pyramidal form, and poor substances. One of those seen this year had large, ruffled flowers of globular form and good substance, but with a lemon yellow beard. Two others had white beards and a droopy form; while the fourth was ruffled and flaring, with a white beard tipped yellow. Any ordinary row of sister seedlings should show at least as much uniformity. I saw many whites this year which looked better than any of those labeled Spanish Peaks.

Pacemaker grew well for me, sending up three bloom stalks on a one-year plant. It was well branched, and smoother at the haft than Christabel, Red Gleam, and the rest; but it was neither large nor tall, and was much darker than pictured, and not so red. In Mr. Barker's garden it was shorter than in mine, and was decidedly less red than several of the Lapham seedlings he had.

Pink Formal I saw only once, in a flower past its prime, with more veining than I had expected to see, and less style; but doubtless it will show up better on established plants.

White Sprite made an airy, graceful row in the Cassebeer garden. The flowers are ruffled and clean looking, and very white, though not all of them are as flaring as those in Fred's lovely photograph. Full-blown flowers are more rounded, and semi-flaring rather than flat. I liked it.

Raspberry Ribbon and Prospector both startled me by looking exactly like their catalogue color plates—a rare phenomenon in the iris world. I liked both of them very much, indeed, though they are of course utterly different. Both were on one-year plants and I could form no opinion of their growing qualities.

Thotmes III, also on a one-year plant, did not resemble its color plate in the least. It was much better (also a rare phenomenon). It had more ruffling, poise, and style, and the color was much deeper and more brilliant—a golden brown rather than a tan.

Hi-Time failed to bloom for me (though it made seven increases), and I saw it only on a short one-year plant in New England. It was much smaller than Melody Lane, but apparently had better form and substance in the same color.

Clear Sailing, a rather small, creamy bitone, had good poise and placement, and provoked a great deal of favorable comment in several gardens, though I did not get excited about it myself—perhaps because I liked the ruffled ones better in that color class.

Lapham Variety Intensely Pink

Paradise Pink, while still not the ultimate in smoothness and substance, struck me as the most intensely pink in garden effect among the tangerine beards so far introduced. It has the carrying quality of Courtier, and much better form.

Dolly Varden, seen only on one-year plants, was short and unbranched, but the flowers had more flare and substance than most of the Hall "pinks." It is not really a pink, but a blend, and may be rather neutral in mass effect, but it has a good deal of subtle richness on close examination.

Ballerina, as I saw it on a single one-year plant, showed no superiority over Cherie, and was certainly less impressive than the big ruffled pink I saw in the Hall garden in 1947 under number 46-14, which was later registered as Ballerina. On looking up the catalog description of Ballerina I find it listed as seedling number 48-15, so there must have been a shift.

Summer Song, a new introduction by Mrs. Nesmith, was clearly derived from the prolific Tobacco Road family—a bright golden buff blend, more ruffled than many in this color, and very attractive. More competition for Dr. Kleinsorge; but he cannot complain, for he gives himself plenty of competition. Brown blends in all shades are now bewilderingly numerous and only time can tell which ones are going to win out by consistent performance.

Kiki, the newest blue from the Graves line, I may have seen before under number; in any case it is one of the best. It has the color of Kiltie, but much better form, and to my eye was much more finished and appealing than Jane Phillips.

Campanula is a medium blue which I had not seen before. The flowers are rounded (not droopy) and not especially distinguished in form, but the poise and placing were excellent on a clump in the Buttrick garden, and seen against the background of the Concord River it was most attractive.

Alline Rogers, on a one-year plant, had a large but somewhat coarsely textured flower which made less appeal to me than its parent, Cascade Splendor—one of my favorites. If it performs as well when established, I may change my mind.

Leading Lady, on a one-year plant, struck me as a ruffled version of Mattie Gates or Golden Fleece. Many of the best in this color class have been erratic performers, so I'll wait and see. Ruffling does appeal to me.

Cloudcap, seen in two gardens, was eliciting gasps of admiration as the biggest tangerine-bearded pink so far (though Mr. McKee has a bigger one of deeper, if somewhat veined, coloring). It seemed a little amorphous, and no better in substance than most of the pinks; and but for its size would have attracted scant attention. However, a freshly opened flower was not too bad, and it may have more starch when better established.

Sunray, on a single stalk, was a bright attractive yellow with paler areas on the falls and a bright orange beard. It has the same life and sparkle as Mr. Hall's older Buttercup Lane, but this one has flaring form and tough substance along with the ruffling. If it grows up and performs well it should be popular.

DeForest Plicatas Outstanding

Captain from Castile is a yellow-ground plicata that is really yellow, with far more brightness and intensity than I have seen in any of the older plicatas like Balmung or Ruth Pollock. It is rounded in form, though slightly ruffled. In size, shape, and pattern of marking it is almost exactly like the same grower's New Hope, but the latter is dead white in ground color without a trace of yellow. I much prefer the yellow one.

Honor Bright is also a yellow plicata, but quite different in form—a sharply flaring version of Tiffanja, brighter in color.

Gay Borders I did not care for; it struck me as rather cold and uninspiring in color. It is certainly unusual, a wide-banded plicata with a neutral white ground and old rose markings, and will undoubtedly appeal to some tastes more than to mine. Substance and form were good.

Maytime, on a one-year plant, was well-branched and very luscious in color. It seemed darker than the published color plate, with a little more infusion of yellow in both standards and falls, giving the whole flower a warmer tone. The standards were slightly open, but seemed strong, and the falls were wide and rounded, with very little flare. How important it may be in amoena breeding remains to be seen, but it will be popular on color appeal alone.

Truly Yours, Mr. Fay's white and yellow bitone, is undoubtedly the most sensational iris I got my first look at this year. On a one-year plant I could form little opinion as to ultimate size, height, and garden effect. But the individual flower was fairly large, well formed, heavy in substance, and quite unique in coloring. It is a warm white, with canary yellow areas on standards and falls (but quite differently placed as compared with those of Fair Elaine or Golden Treasure); and the under sides of the petals are yellow, giving the whole flower a most subtle play of color. The buds, of course, are yellow, and form an interesting part of the picture, especially as they have the open throats that betoken ruffling. If this iris performs consistently it will be a top favorite.

Among the named varieties that I had seen only once or twice before, the ones that held their own in my opinion—or rose even higher—were Mrs. Corey's Jack Frost, Mr. McKee's Kim and Panay, Mrs. Nesmith's Black Satin and Magic Sails, Dr. Graves's Helen McKenzie, and Mr. Knowlton's Chiquita, Quechee, and Kezar Lake. Jack Frost is a ruffled very flaring white, and I have more than once expressed a preference for the semi-flaring rather than the flaring type of flower. On a single stalk I admired Jack Frost's perfection without enthusiasm, but this year I saw it in a clump, and it is so clean and white, so jaunty and refined, with such poise and placing, that I really liked it. Kim is just a pale plicata, but opulent in size and form. Panay had been divided and was still small, but excellent in form and substance and unique in color. All these have been adequately described in earlier Bulletins.

Among the fairly well known varieties that were doing exceptionally well in eastern gardens this year I should particularly like to mention Juliet, Cascade Splendor, Pinnacle, Amandine, Redwyne, Seafarer, New Snow, Bay State, Red Torch, Indiana Night, and Ola Kala (which seemed to be getting along with few stakes this year). Chivalry and Blue Rhythm were excellent as usual, and Helen McGregor showed little fading this time. I heard more people remark on the good performance of Juliet than on that of any other one variety.

At this point the reader who is interested only in irises now available on the market, and who is bored by pedigrees and seedling numbers, should stop reading and go on to the next article.

Iris Seedlings in 1951

There were some very interesting first and second year seedlings in northeastern gardens this year.

At the Cassebeer farm I saw a whole row of nice ruffled whites in varying styles, from No. 206 x Spanish Peaks (*which* Spanish Peaks I won't pretend to say); some nice yellows from Penn Charter; a nice two-toned yellow from Lady Louise, very ruffled; and among the older seedlings a fine near-amoenia (No. 364) from Louise Blake x a variegata; a very dark purple like a slightly redder Black Forest (No. 407); and some nice reds from Adirondack Chief x Brightling.

In the Graves garden I saw no first year seedlings of note, but older seedlings of top quality were almost embarrassingly numerous. There were a few pinks and yellows, and there was a brown blend named Medicine Man in honor of Dr. Graves (who would never consent to having his name applied to an iris); but as usual the blues and whites filled the garden—all the sisters, cousins, and aunts of Helen McGregor, Jane Phillips, Helen McKenzie, Lady Boscawen, Kiltie, Kiki, and Sarah Lee Shields, and all so good they are harder to tell apart. If I had to choose a favorite, it might be a ruffled, flaring light blue—one of the bluest—number 47-38-B. It had the same kind of poise and placing

that I liked in Jack Frost. It was from (Purissima x Cloud Castle) x Kiltie.

In the Nesmith garden there were some interesting seedlings from Radiation, excellent in color and form but showing a similar tendency to bunch the flowers. I liked better her pink seedling No. 48-1-A, in the Melody Lane colors but better in form and substance. She had some new blends, and some new darks; none better, however, than Black Satin. That will be hard to beat.

In the Buttrick garden I liked again No. 46-94-A, the greenish white mentioned last year, and a small, very blue seedling, No. 46-4. The best new one I saw was No. 48-15-A, a ruffled medium blue with wide segments and compact form, larger than Seafarer, from a back cross of Seafarer x Great Lakes.

In the Lowry garden there were some interesting new buff and cream blends, but the most interesting iris I had not seen before was a second year seedling, No. L-8-206, from Mexico x (Old Parchment x Katharine Larmon). It was a ruffled, flaring blend, the standards a light ochre and the falls slightly lighter with a pale blue blaze and pleasingly contrasting yellow brown shoulders. It has been tentatively named Caramel. Her Autumn Brown—still an unintroduced seedling—was stunning on an established clump; if it grows as well elsewhere it will be one of the best in the brown class. Her Violet Harmony was also tip-top.

Usually one's seedlings do not grow as well elsewhere as they do at home, but in the Lowry garden a little blue seedling of my own (called Elfin Lake) astonished me by blooming 40% larger and taller than it has ever done for me. Mrs. Corey tells me it did the same in her garden. A displaced Yankee, perhaps, accidentally sent home from alien soil! Or maybe it is just that both ladies received the roots two years ago at the height of the great drought, heeled them in on the compost heap, and planted them out when water was available in the fall. Maybe we should give all our new acquisitions a rest in the compost heap before planting. I happen to like Elfin Lake even in its smaller version, and I wish it would increase more rapidly. The first thing I did on my return home was to push a rhizome into my compost heap.

In the Barker garden there were literally hundreds of pink seedlings, unfortunately rather past peak. Mr. Barker said that all the best ones had gone by, but that they had shown considerable advance in form and substance this year. I could not mark any, though I did note one little fellow, not yet numbered, that had a reddish orange beard but a distinctly lemonish tone in the falls, suggesting possibilities in breeding for a yellow with red beard. Mr. Barker had a rather nice ruffled medium blue, No. 49-19, which may well be heard from.

In the Corey garden I noted three pinks. Number B-X-L-1 was a cross from Buneaux's No. 43-5, an orangey pink with good beard and

extra heavy substance, but no flare. No. L-50-1 was a nicely formed medium pink of fair substance, from Pink Salmon x Pink Formal. No. 57-1-P was a smaller, rosier pink, lively and floriferous. A white, previously noted as No. 19-J-1, and now called High Seas, was doing very well; rounder than Jack Frost, it is almost as ruffled. A new blue, No. 24-L-1, was very ruffled and crinkly, and almost a flax blue in color. It was from a white sister of Helen McGregor x Zephyryn.

In the Fraim garden we saw many fine seedlings, including a smooth indigo violet (No. F-3-46), a nice ruffled yellow and white reverse bicolor (No. F-7-15-A), and Indian red bicolor with extra wide falls (No. F-5-11), and a fine medium sized golden orange with top form, substance, branching and placing (No. F-48-100), on which nearly everybody hung a tag.

At Mr. McKee's the high point of interest was a new pink seedling of form and substance. It was No. 5120. It had good branching, three flowers open at once, flaring, well poised, with a cool, rosy pink rather than salmon tone, and a good tangerine beard. There were other good ones, including a replica of Cloudcap (No. 5111) and several apparent improvements on Cherie and Radiation; but this one was outstanding. Among the seedlings of Fairday there was a tall, clean, well formed yellow amoena (No. 5110), not quite as definite a bicolor as Pinnacle, but with the substance and flaring form of Fairday. Mr. McKee considers it an advance but not quite his goal. In the same cross there was a reverse amoena, having yellow standards and white falls with some yellow at the shoulders. It was a little suggestive of Truly Yours, but different in form, and without the yellow under-side and yellow buds. It was No. 5108. There was also a fine dark blend in the Miogem class the number of which I failed to note; it was much like No. 5023 (noted last year), but even better, if not as large. I also liked an older seedling (No. 4957), a large dusty rose with tangerine beard; but Mr. McKee did not seem to think much of it because of its veining, and most of the visitors made the same objection. Of the second year seedlings, the outstanding one was the huge white (No. 5020), now registered as Chinese White. I did not see his tall red, No. 50-26, noted last year.

In the Knowlton garden I was pleased to see so many of the seedlings I had tagged last year now doing well as second year plants. Outstanding were two yellows: No. 48-94-A, a rounded flower with closed standards and very wide semi-flaring falls, deep in color but with a lighter patch at the center of the falls; and No. 48-36-A, a heavily sub-stanced, ruffled, flaring, deep yellow of great intensity and fine style. The latter looks as if it might be the better, tougher Ola Kala so many breeders are working for. I again liked a deep rosy blend, No. 47-13-C, and turned in another H.C. vote for it; also a blue white (No. 48-119-A), and a very smooth, dark, flaring variegata, with narrow edging (No. 47-68-B).

There were comparatively few new seedlings here, Mr. Knowlton having planted many of his 1950 germinations at his son's farm on Cape Cod. But among the few that did bloom for the first time was the outstanding seedling of the year. From a commonplace cross of Extravaganza x Wabash, Mr. Knowlton got two interesting variegatas, a queer color break with yellow standards and blue-purple falls broadly edged white (not yellow), several good amoenas much like Wabash with clear white standards, and another amoena (No. 48-124) which, as far as one may judge from a single short stalk in a crowded seedling bed, looks like the finest amoena to date.

I doubt whether this will ever be a large flower or a tall plant. There was some indication of good branching, but it was neither the tallest nor most vigorous plant in the row; and we all know the tendency of amoenas to be disappointingly slow and erratic in growth. But the flower! It was well formed, with clean white standards, rich, velvety, blue purple falls only very slightly shaded at the edges, with no white band to distract attention from the bicolor contrast, and with no messy haft markings to mar it. It was really rich. If Mr. Knowlton can keep it and make it grow up and perform consistently, he will give our good Editor a new mark to aim at in amoena breeding.

OUR COMMON BOND—THE WEATHER

FRIEDA BOSHOF-MOSTERT, South Africa.

Having read the past few years' Iris Society's Bulletins I have come to the conclusion that you have "weather" in the U.S.A. too! We have been led to believe that it is a breach of intellectual etiquette "to talk about the weather," but being a farmer and an iris grower I find myself constantly guilty of this misdemeanour.

Our Intermediate Iris (e.g. Red Orchid, Eleanor Roosevelt, Golden Bow and Alaska) start flowering the beginning of September and when they are just at their peak (15th Sept.) the Early Tall Bearded (China Maid, Purissima, Happy Days, Mount Washington, Miss California) start into bloom and reach their lovely best the last week in September, to be followed by Golden Majesty, Snow Flurry, Shining Waters, Los Angeles and the very many other wonderful "mid-season" and "mid-season late" iris, among which are most of my very new ones, Pink Cameo, Display, Lady Mohr, Confetti, Sultan's Robe, Desert Song and the whole regiment of colour and beauty.

I had worked out an elaborate system which promised to "put every iris in its place in the time-table." In the past I had grown some iris in sheltered spots in the garden, others in the open and I felt that I dared not specify their times of flowering until I had them all growing

under the same conditions. Now the iris are planted in rows—vegetable-garden fashion—out in the full sun and subject to our strong winds and each and every one has the same chance of showing its degree of “toughness.” I feel that unless an iris can stand up to wind and sun it is unfair to grow it commercially.

The season started out well. (I am speaking of September, 1950). Red Orchid—of which I have many hundreds of plants—carpeted the ground with Persian red. China Maid came into bloom with a flourish and gave me a large patch of orchid pink with bronzy sheen. On the 29th Sept. I picked many blooms for a Show, among others Golden Majesty, Snow Flurry, Mount Washington, Lighthouse, Grace Mohr, Ozone, Gay Senorita, California Peach. The buds on my very new importations were swelling. Pink Cameo gave promise of an early flower, Chivalry was in full bud, Confetti “looked interesting,” New Snow had one flower and many buds, Desert Song was to show her face in South Africa for the first time, Violet Symphony had a bloom stalk, and so many others were preparing for the big show.

On September 31st snow fell on the Drakensberg—a range of mountains a hundred miles away. That night the wind turned East and blew straight off the snow and ice across the plateau where we live: the High Veld. On the morning of the 1st Oct. I hurried out to the acre of iris. There they stood in all their lovely colours—frozen. As the sun’s rays touched the little cylinders of ice that were iris buds, so they blackened and drooped, until iris leaves that “do not turn a hair” right through our winter were seared as if boiling water had been poured over them. The fig trees inside the garden wall were touched with frost, the fruit trees in the orchard were bereft of all fruit and the walnuts had not a leaf left. The Broad Beans that had grown all Winter and had produced beans were pitch black. On the farm we had two acres of peas in full flower. It was a lovely stand and we reckoned on an easy thousand bushels of Green Peas. On the 1st October the land was left black.

On Oct. 17th the iris had thrown up enough new flowers to win me a Gold Medal at the East Rand Spring Flower Show, but there was no sheet of colour in the garden, as there usually is.

As a consequence of this queer weather I had iris flowering on and off right through the Summer. There was not a week without iris in the house and in the garden. I saw most of my new iris at odd times, so all was not lost.

As I write another iris season is about to begin. In a sheltered spot I have a wonderful clump of Purissima and one of our own seedlings is in full bud. In common with those who “grow things” the world over, my heart sings “THIS IS THE YEAR.” I will write and tell you in January if it was!



Figure 1—Above

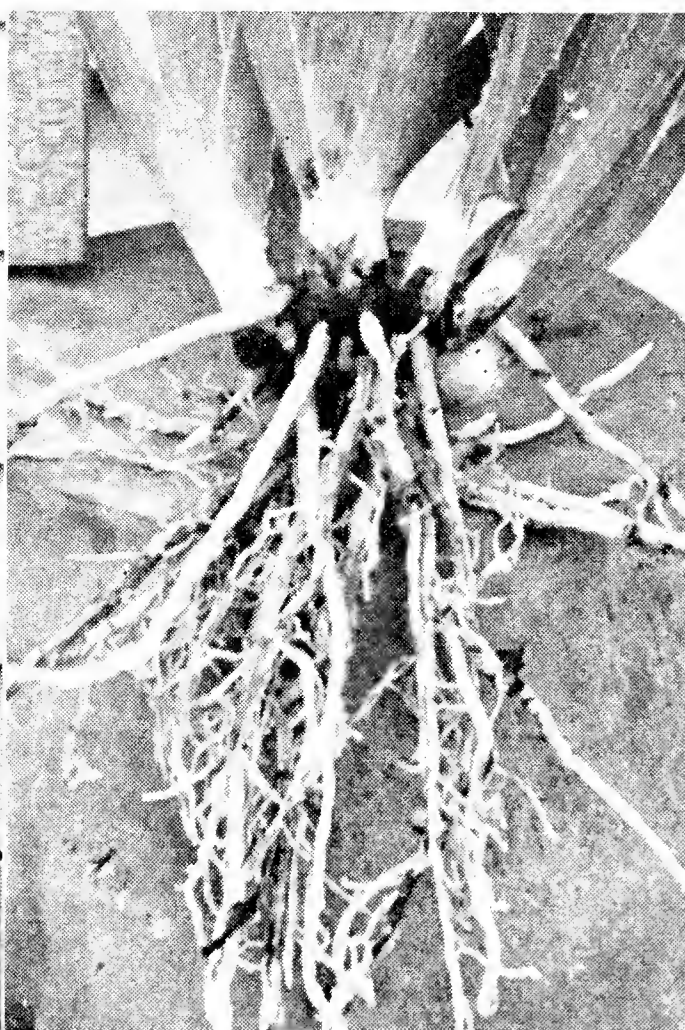


Figure 2—Above

Below—Figure 3



Below—Figure 4



PROLIFERATIONS FOLLOWED-UP*

JOHN L. BRIGGS, Mich.

FIGURE 1 is of proliferation off set from No. 50-33. Picture taken 5-15-51. The plant now has formed five fans and stands nearly a foot high. A bud stalk shows clearly in the center of the picture.

Proliferation off set No. 50-52 did not make much growth so no picture was made. Its fan stood but 6 inches high with five leaflets. It was only slightly larger than seedlings from seed planted in November 1950. It may be significant that this proliferation was formed high on the flower stalk.

FIGURE 2 off shoot bloomed in time to be seen by 60 members on a garden tour in connection with the Region 6 AIS meeting on June 3, 1951. A bloom stalk from the vegetative parent (a three year old seedling) was cut and set in the ground to the right of the proliferation. The picture clearly shows that the flowers are identical.

FIGURE 3 shows the plant with roots exposed. A 15-inch ruler is shown for comparison.

FIGURE 4 shows a close-up of the root system of this proliferation.

* See Bulletin No. 122, Page 56.

KODACHROME SLIDES

What's new for '51? What's new for '52? Gorgeous iris portraits in full color. Rental collection—fees refundable. Write for information.



Easy Breeze Gardens

RFD 3, BOX 201-B, YAKIMA, WASH.

MULCHING IRIS

GEDDES DOUGLAS, Tenn.

The value of mulching various perennial flowers cannot be over-emphasized. To the small home gardener mulching means conservation of moisture, elimination of weeds and a great saving of labor either on the part of the gardener himself or a saving in dollars and cents if the weeding and cultivation must be done by hired help. Recent experiments at the Vallevue Test Gardens, Cleveland, Ohio by Mr. Thomas R. Manley have clearly shown that the soil temperature may be appreciably lowered in summer and raised in winter if certain perennials are mulched anywhere from two to four inches with such material as chopped straw, chopped leaves, coarse ground corn cobs and the like.

Unfortunately, the bearded iris has not responded to such agents for mulching. In the first place the bearded iris likes relative dryness rather than a moist condition and the leaves at the basal part of the fan are apt to harbor various and sundry kinds of molds and fungi that are injurious to iris. Most mulches disintegrate because of the action of soil bacteria and the resulting organic acids create a soil condition unfavorable to the growth of iris. However, Mr. M. J. Brownell of Mt. Upton, New York has come forward with a new suggestion that is proving to be quite satisfactory. Most people like to grow their bearded iris in beds raised slightly above the level of the surrounding soil. Mr. Brownell plants his iris rhizomes above the level of the soil. That is, he covers the roots and leaves the rhizome sitting on top of the soil like a duck on water. After the bed is completely planted he uses sand as a mulch and covers the bed completely with from one to two inches of sand. The sand layer which covers the rhizomes acts as a dust mulch. It practically eliminates the growth of weed seeds and cuts down cultivation to a minimum. The conservation of moisture takes place in the root area rather than in the area level of the rhizome and consequently there is no tendency for abnormal growth of soft rot bacteria or mustard seed fungus. Actual temperature measurements indicate that in summer the soil under the sand stays 20 to 30° lower than in unmulched beds. Winter temperatures of the soil are correspondingly higher. Gardeners interested in bearded iris would do well to try this new type of cultivation for there is no perennial that can compare with the bearded iris when it comes to a grand floral display in early spring.



Neophyte Veep (Region 6) is likeable Earl E. Evans of Fort Wayne, Ind. Just before beginning work on his new job, Earl is shown in the act of opening three gift packages. The first contained Blue Blazes (from Indiana), the second Dazzler (from Michigan) and the third, Orangeman (from Ohio). Gardener Evans by profession is a commercial artist but his hobby is hybridizing irises. A speaker of note, he has enthusiasm, ability, energy and willingness—an enviable combination of qualities for a RVP.

Mr. Earl E. Evans

Occasionally a new name is flashed upon the screen of famous personalities in the iris world and many will be unfamiliar with the events and qualifications leading up to this sudden event. But such persons do not arrive at this position without the proper background and confidence of the members in his ability.

Earl Evans, our new Regional Vice-President of Region 6 is a familiar figure among the activities of this area and has been a “wheel horse” of the region over a long period. Nurtured under the early tra-

ditions established by E. B. Williamson and Franklin B. Mead he has continued to give a lasting character to these ideals, along with Paul Cook and Mary Williamson, until to speak of Region 6 immediately brings to mind the Ft. Wayne-Bluffton vicinity.

Earl is an artist by profession, and carries his highly critical standards into his hybridizing work, making of him a perfectionist. This accounts for his few introductions, as compared to the high quality of his numerous seedlings. When he received both first and second prizes on his entries at the Regional Meet this spring he would offer a gracious "Thank You" to your flattering comments, but remained unperturbed.

Quiet spoken and unruffled in his manners, he is a genial personality when the occasion or opportunity demands. His talk upon hybridizing was the outstanding entertainment of our recent meeting. Earl not only gave an enlightening discourse upon the subject but with the addition of humor and various tools and equipment of the hybridizing trade, made of it a find piece of entertainment.

You will not find Earl out front taking the bows for his effort but you will be aware of his excellent contribution to the success of activities in which he is involved. Region 6 is proud to have as its leader such a capable person and one who can be depended upon to maintain the high ideals of the founders of our Society.—WALTER WELCH, Ind.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

AIS CHANGES ADDRESS

The Nashville central office of the American Iris Society has been moved from the old address of 444 Chestnut Street to new quarters. The new address is

**AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
FRANKLIN ROAD
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE**

Please address all communications to the Secretary and to the EDITOR to the new address.

PROPAGATION OF IRIS INNOMINATA

LEE W. LENZ

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Anaheim, Calif.

In the relatively few years since its introduction into cultivation *Iris innominata* has increased in popularity to such an extent that today it is one of the most sought after of the species iris. Dr. Matthew C. Riddle has in a recent issue of this journal (January, 1948) given an excellent account of this very beautiful little iris.

Propagation of *Iris innominata* is readily accomplished by seeds and the young plants may be expected to bloom the second year from fall-sown seed. However, during the past few years through hybridization and selection iris growers have developed many superior new forms which now come in a wide range of colors. Since these forms will not come true from seed it is necessary that they be propagated vegetatively if we are to maintain these new varieties. Vegetative propagation was for a long time considered a difficult way to propagate the West Coast irises and this is probably the main reason why our native species have not been more generally grown in California. Undoubtedly the main reason for much of the failure in the past has been that the plants have been moved at the wrong time, and even today some commercial growers attempt to handle them the way they do tall bearded iris.

As early as 1913 Dykes in his monumental work on the group, *The Genus Iris*, in discussing the propagation of the California irises wrote that "the paucity of their root fibres makes transplantation somewhat uncertain" and he further says, "It (transplanting) should therefore only be attempted during the months from April till July, when growth is active and before the main root thongs have grown out their lateral fibres. The nurseryman's habit of sending out all

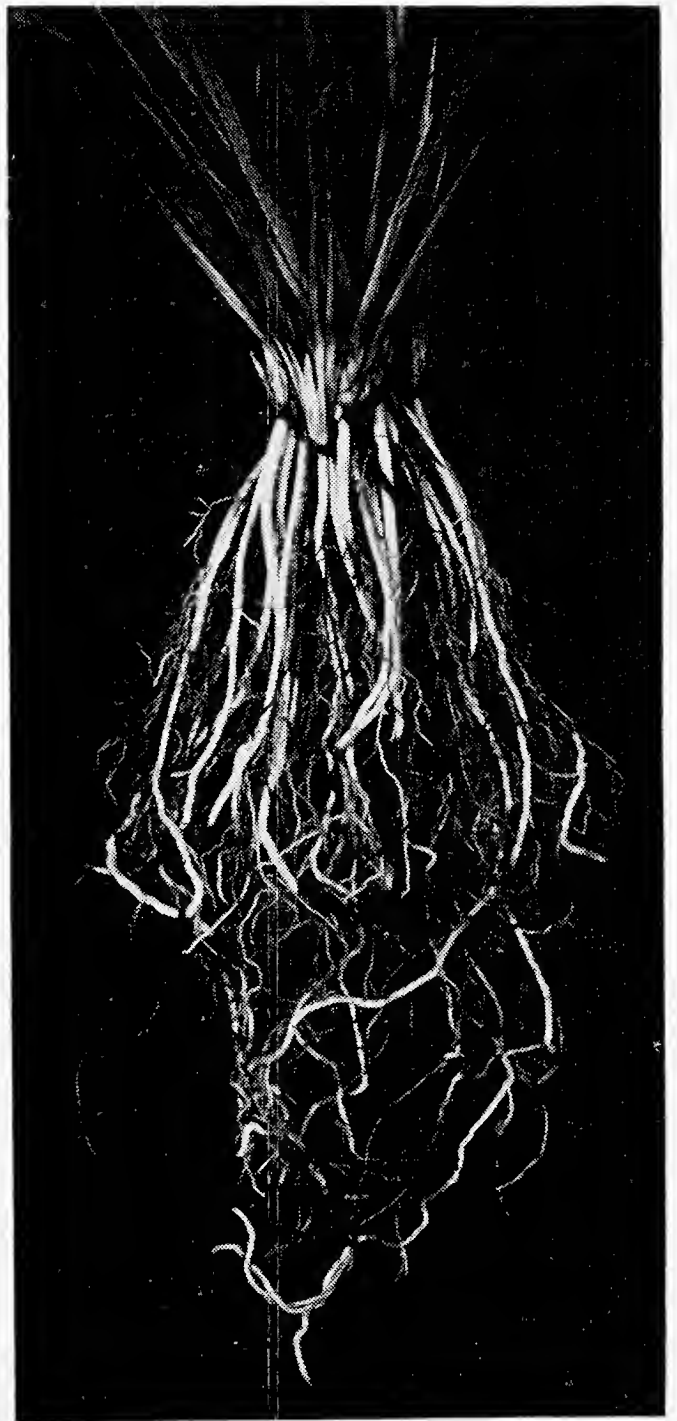


PLATE I

herbaceous plants in the autumn is fatal to these California Irises, and we can imagine that this is one reason why they are not more widely grown." Within recent years a number of growers, among them Riddle (*Journ. Calif. Hort. Soc.* IX: 13-18, 1948), Mitchell (*Iris for Every Garden*, (1949), and Nies (*Bull. Am. Iris Soc.* No. 120, 1951) have all stressed the point that these plants must be moved only when they are beginning to make new root growth. In developing a breeding program with the California irises the author has had occasion to experiment with various ways of dividing and handling these plants, and the method described here is the one used at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden for propagating selected clones of *Iris innominata*.



PLATE II

Since it is often desirable to obtain as many divisions as possible from a single plant the entire clump is dug at the time when root growth is active and all the soil is then washed from the roots. In the tangle of roots shown in Plate I can be seen the new white, thong-like, roots interspersed with the smaller, much-branched, brown roots produced the previous year. In dividing the plants it has been found advisable to remove most of the old roots in order to be able to separate the fans without breaking the new roots. The fans are then carefully broken apart, making certain that each division has at least one of the new roots. The small fans are then planted in four-inch pots and held until growth is active before placing them into the garden. Plate II shows the division ready to pot. From a two-year-old plant such as is shown in Plate I it has been possible to obtain anywhere from six to thirteen healthy divisions.

It was found that it is easier to divide the plants before the new roots become too long and it is probably easiest when they are about two to three inches long rather than when they have developed to the extent shown in Plate I.

Due to the mild winters in this area the young plants can be set out at almost any time during the winter or early spring and a number of them will bloom that spring.

The time of year when root growth is active varies, depending upon where the plants are grown and how they are handled. Here at the Botanic Garden the iris are allowed to remain in a state of aestivation during the summer months by withholding most of the water, and active root growth then normally begins during the late fall or early winter when the rains begin. There is also another period of active root formation in early spring. It was found that growth could be started early in the fall by watering the plants a few times, and for purely practical reasons, because there are fewer garden jobs to be done in the fall, a great deal of the digging and dividing has been done in September although it was continued as late as December. It is easy, however, to tell if the plants are ready for dividing by merely digging around the base of the plant with a small object and observing whether the new roots have started to develop. Even within a single planting some clumps will be ready before others. Some idea of when the plants are making new roots can be had by watching for the development of new fans since the two take place pretty much at the same time.

Under favorable conditions it is doubtful whether it would be necessary to start the divisions in pots before planting them out, but in this area where the weather conditions may be rather unfavorable during the fall and winter it has been considered the safest way to handle them. For the iris breeder who is dividing an especially fine plant for the first time it is suggested that the divisions be started in pots.

Dr. Sydney Mitchell in his recent book *Iris for Every Garden* suggests that possibly one way by which the California irises could be successfully handled by the commercial grower is to establish the plants in gallon cans as is done with many herbaceous plants. The writer fully agrees that this is undoubtedly the most satisfactory method for handling these plants since established plants can be moved from the cans to the garden without great fear of loss. In the case of *Iris innominata*, because of its small size, it seems that it would be possible to sell established plants in four-inch pots since the author's experience has shown that they are not injured by becoming somewhat pot-bound. Certainly a container larger than a six-inch pot or a two-quart can would not be necessary since the plants will bloom profusely in such containers. In this way the grower could, by watching his plants, divide them at the opportune time and then have healthy, well-established plants for his customers.

REGIONAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1951 in Region 1

MRS. PRESTON E. COREY, R.V.P., Mass.

Starting last October, our first monthly meeting was an informal "gathering of the clan." Kodachromes of the past season, followed by plenty of coffee and sandwiches to help the chatter was as enjoyable as formerly and will probably be our first program of each fall. Everyone wants an opportunity to compare notes and experiences after the season; they come early and stay late. Monthly attendance came close to sixty.

Some new projects tried in the past two years are proving of value. The Gardens Committee with Mrs. Gilbert Barton as Chairman, did a satisfying bit of reporting. Many outlying and smaller gardens were visited. Our Region 1 Bulletin under the able management of Mr. George Pride, our Editor, is increasingly popular. Circulation is widening fast, letters of commendation increasing.

The newly appointed State Chairmen have made excellent starts in their efforts to assist local iris interest and activities. In Connecticut Mrs. Stephenson has held several meetings and garden trips. Membership there is increasing. In New Hampshire Mrs. Storm filled a request for a talk on iris at a Community Garden meeting and had a garden visit in the Graves garden. In Maine Mr. McLaughlin has had a similar program and in Rhode Island Dr. Percy Brown has made a start. The many visitors to the lovely garden of Mr. John Goss in Burlington, Vermont, will be a nucleus for interest in that state, we hope.

This effort to create centers for interested iris growers unable to make the long trips necessary to attend the program of visits in the Boston area, is in its infancy. Our plan is that it gradually expands to form many groups throughout Region 1, all to be in contact with us through their State Chairmen.

The iris auction will be a project for alternate seasons, having proven a pleasant and satisfactory way to keep us in funds.

Bloom in New England was a full week early and lasted long, a pleasant and more leisurely season than usual. Bloom was good. Planned visits were made to the gardens of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Knowlton, Dr. and Mrs. Franklin Lowry, Mr. Mandeville Barker, Mrs. Irvin Fraim, Mrs. Thomas Nesmith, Mr. and Mrs. Stedman Buttrick, Mr. and Mrs. William McKee, Mr. Winfield Wheeler, Mrs. Robert Graves, Messrs. Edward and Arthur Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. Jamison Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Preston Corey, Mr. Kenneth Stone and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Barton. From the early bloom of the Lowry's to the late garden of the Barton's was a full month.

There are seedlings in all these gardens from hundreds to thou-

sands. Many are truly excellent; Mr. McKee's deep, brilliant blend, now named Eben, is rich, different; two fine yellows of Mr. Knowlton's; a lovely caramel colored one, (vanilla-butter caramel) and a charming pink border type of Mrs. Lowry's; some beauties at the Buttrick's especially whites and violets. A salmon pink of real garden value, L-50-1, has been named Anthea at Corey's.

We have one garden that stands out especially for wonderful culture, that of Mr. Kenneth Stone in Ashby, near the New Hampshire line. In New England, where medium sized rhizomes are normal, Mr. Stone can equal anything from Southern California, with growth to correspond. He can get increase and bloom that is pure magic and in his higher elevation, color is pure and non-fading. Helen McGregor in this garden was everything and more than catalog descriptions; a choice garden.

New England is busy "redding up." Gardens are being made over and enlarged; new iris and guests being planted in quantity, all in preparation for a "big time" and fine show in 1953.

Region 2

M. J. BROWNELL, R.V.P., N.Y.

Regional activities reached an all time high this year. I admit the improvement is slow but a steady one. We started in March with a winter meeting held in Binghamton, New York. This was a dinner meeting with Dr. L. F. Randolph as a speaker. He gave us a talk on the improvement of irises down through the years and the outline he gave was excellent. This was followed by slides of newer irises and some of old favorites. About 115 people were present. Rev. C. Ritchie and Steve Janicki deserve a lot of credit for making this meeting such a success.

Our region was divided into seven sections for garden visits at blooming time. Four held such treks—Buffalo, Finger Lakes Section, Rochester and Albany. The Albany trek, under the guidance of Mrs. H. A. Laidlaw of Amsterdam was particularly successful in the number of people making the tour and the number of gardens visited.

An iris mail auction is now in progress to raise funds for a regional bulletin. Mr. E. K. Lopeman as chairman of the auction committee induced 21 people to donate and has come out with a very fine auction catalog listing 100 items. The closing date of the auction is August 25. This our first auction holds promise of being a very successful one.

In membership we lost six old and gained 17 new memberships.

Most of our judges functioned this season for the first time in years. New blood is the answer.

Mrs. C. M. Zirbel's three "Letter Robins" deserve mention as I know they did a lot to keep new members interested.

Report from Region Three

MRS. WALLACE J. WHITE, Penna.

On May 26, members of Region 3 and their friends met in the garden of John G. Lyster, Regional Vice-President, at Aldan. Mr. Lyster's garden is laid out with circular beds surrounding a large center grass plot, so that from any point a visitor gets a delightful view of many colors blending with and complementing each other. At one side are smaller beds with his new iris, including statuesque Lady Boscawen, Chinook Pass, Brownell's Sunsation, New Snow, velvety Red Torch, Blue Valley and Vice Regal.

From Mr. Lyster's garden the visitor drove to the home of Edwin L. Palmer at Primos. Mr. Palmer keeps his iris in small clumps in double rows along straight beds, with peonies, rhododendrons and evergreens forming a partial background. A grouping which he felt was particularly attractive consisted of Klondike Gold, William A. Setchell, Shannopin, Lothario and Ming Yellow. Mr. Palmer reported that Franconia, Indiana Night, Lady Mohr and Black Valor performed very satisfactorily this year.

The group then visited the gardens at Swarthmore College, where the iris beds are planted near the peonies and form a charming picture. In another location near Swarthmore, John C. Wister has planted long beds of iris of both old and new varieties, including Rainbow Room, Cloth of Gold, Pinnacle and Mayan Gold.

The garden of Dr. John Dolman in Swarthmore was rightfully the last stop on the tour. As always, this spot was very interesting, with Dr. Dolman's seedlings mingled with visiting iris and older established varieties. Outstanding performers were Radiation, Pinnacle (like a lady with a crisp white organdy blouse and bouffant yellow skirt), Jericho, Juliet, Cascade Splendor, creamy Amandine, Orange Gem, and his own sturdy Captain Flint and Kathie Dee.

After dinner at the Inglenook Tea Room, the guests returned to Dr. Dolman's home to see his kodachrome slides of iris gardens he had visited. For the benefit of the new members, Dr. Dolman explained the procedure followed in selecting iris for Honorable Mention, the Award of Merit, the list of 100 best iris and the Hall of Fame, as well as the awarding of the Dykes Medal.

In the group were Mr. Lyster, Dr. Dolman, Mr. Palmer, Miss E. C. Palmer, Mr. C. W. Fenninger of Chestnut Hill, Mr. R. B. Chilles, president of the Germantown Horticultural Society, Mrs. Douglas Gilchrist of Lansdowne, Mrs. Ruth Miller of Ithan, Mr. J. Donovan Bolger of Norristown, Mrs. William E. Chambers of Merion and Mr. and Mrs. J. Alvin Weiland of Phoenixville with their friends, Mrs. and Miss Rankin.

Report from Region 4

LOUIS R. McDONALD, R.V.P., Virginia

The Annual Meeting of the membership of Region 4 was held in Washington, D.C., May 19-20. This meeting was enjoyed by more than forty members of the AIS.

Saturday morning we all met at the National Arboretum where Mr. B. Y. Morrison conducted a tour over the 473 acres. Here we found the famous Glendale hybrid Azaleas and a wide collection of interesting trees and shrubs from the world over.

The Takoma Park Horticultural Club Iris Show was held Saturday with many varieties of iris. Here Wabash, Pink Cameo and Elsa Sass were the best in the show.

The banquet and annual meeting were held at the Brook Farm Restaurant in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Thirty members were present at the meeting. We had an open discussion on care and culture of iris, and made plans for the coming year.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE. Ways and means of increasing our membership in the AIS were discussed. It was finally decided to appoint chairmen in various parts of our region who shall devise plans as seem best to them for securing new members. The following members were appointed chairmen: Mrs. Stella, West Virginia; Mrs. F. Allen Brown and Mrs. C. A. Herbert, Roanoke; Mrs. Schroeder, Washington; Mr. Mason, Arlington; Mr. Richmans, Maryland; Mrs. Aycock and Mrs. Roberts, Norfolk; a chairman for Richmond to be appointed later.

PUBLICATIONS. Requests were made for articles for both the National and Regional Bulletin. A chairman is to be appointed at a later date but meanwhile it was decided to send in any articles for the National Bulletin to the Nashville office and material for the Regional bulletin to our Regional Vice-President.

SLIDES. Nashville is offering to buy slides for their permanent collection so if you have any good slides of iris subjects you are asked to send them in to Nashville.

JUDGES. Those who are judges will please get your ballots in so that our district can be counted 100% in making reports. You are also reminded to send in Varietal notes, estimated number of new irises and any information of interest to the other members to the office in Nashville.

PLACE OF NEXT MEETING. The delegation from Roanoke invited the members to hold their meeting in 1952 in Roanoke. The invitation was accepted with this added amendment, that one day would be spent visiting the Lynchburg gardens, particularly that of Mr. Louis McDonald and the next day would be spent in Roanoke, where the dinner and meeting would be held.

At the close of the meeting a movie on how to grow iris was enjoyed and I believe we all got a few good tips on growing better iris.

On Sunday morning we were greeted in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mason, Arlington, Virginia. Mr. Mason had a fine display of iris, and not an iris borer could be found. Everyone was amazed to find out that this was checked by an early dusting of benzene hexachloride that Mr. Mason had applied to his garden early in the spring. We were told that this would check the borer and other insects, for a whole year. Mr. Mason had a nice display of spring flowers and azaleas in a mass planting around his house. Mr. Mason also grew dahlias, Japanese iris and many other plants. I believe he could answer any questions one could ask on growing and culture of any plant life. Many lovely iris were here. Among these were Chivalry, Helen McGregor, Violet Sympathy, Pink Cameo, Amandine and Master Charles.

At the Palmer garden, we saw many fine seedlings again. His best was a blue-black which we voted for H. C. This was one of the best we have seen in this color class. Dr. Palmer also had some fine yellow and blue seedlings. His hybrid azaleas were in a mass of color with lots of new seedlings among them.

Mr. Edward G. Kind of Arlington, Virginia, had a fine collection of iris. Among his seedlings was a fine red with good height, color and branching. This was worthy of introduction. His 48-33 a fine yellow from Ola Kala and Spun Gold made a good display on a two year plant. His garden was also planted with a fine collection of Glendale azaleas and Rhododendron hybrids.

After a luncheon at the Bethesda Country Club, more members had joined us and we continued our tour to the garden of Mr. Harvey Warwick and Mrs. John Bozievich's garden in Bethesda.

Mr. Warwick's beautiful large estate was well planned, with a planting of trees, shrubs and winding paths leading to his iris garden which was in one mass of bloom. Here we saw huge clumps of Wabash, Vipurii, Cock Robin, Mary Vernon and many of the older varieties of iris which we seldom see.

Mrs. John Bozievich had her iris planted for display in a border of many beautiful shrubs along the border of Hillmead Road. Many fine iris were among these. Her seedlings were in the back of the house. She had some fine pinks. Many were worthy of introduction. Here's hoping she will be able to get some of them introduced.

We left Mrs. Bozievich's garden and met again in Mr. Howard Watkin's garden. There were many of the newer iris. Among these were Cherie and Pinnacle, which were eyecatchers. Both of these were seen for the first time this year. Mr. Watkin's garden was more or less a sales-garden. He had his iris planted in rows of each variety separately and all were in bloom.

Mr. C. M. Davidson's and Mr. Ivan Richman's gardens on Flower Avenue, Silver Springs, Maryland, were small with a fine display of older varieties of iris. Mr. Richman's iris were so large and fine looking we had to have the secret from him. This was due to bone meal, super phosphates and 5-10-5. I'm wondering if this will work for me. I believe I'll try it anyway, just to see for myself. I shall also try the borer remedy.

Mr. Davidson's iris were well grown. Old Wabash was growing in a border at the corner of the house under an apple tree, and was in full glory of four stalks of blooms. I was very fond of the mauve pink French iris Ourika of which he later sent me a plant. Mr. Davidson's Lady Boscawen was the queen of the Silver Springs flower show that day.

The Silver Springs flower show was the end of our meeting in Washington. Many thanks to all of our friends in Maryland and Washington for their kind and generous hospitality.

We were very happy to have with us for the iris tour Miss Myra Robinson of Kansas, Illinois. We are always glad for members of the AIS to call on us and visit our gardens.

Region 4 had a very good iris season this year and many fine iris were seen and enjoyed by all. Among the favorites this year were Cherie, Pinnacle, Blue Rhythm, Sable, Black and Gold, Amandine, New Snow, Lady Boscawen, Lilac Lane, New Horizon, Fire Dance, Suzette and Blizzard.

We are not familiar with too many of the new iris in Region 4, and we are planning on some fine new things for our meeting in '52.

Best wishes to all the iris fans for a good iris season for '52, and come to visit our gardens.

Region 6 Report for 1951

MRS. GEORGE D. ROBINSON, Retiring R.V.P., Mich.

Walter Welch's Dwarf Iris Test Garden at Middlebury, Indiana, always rings up the curtain on the iris show in Region 6—and always we see marked improvement over last year's display of new dwarfs there. And each year the gathering of visitors and members of the Dwarf Iris Club is larger in number, too.

Our season was late again this year, and my visit was on Saturday, May 12, with the Jay Ackermans of Lansing, Michigan. Walter's garden was not so crowded with visitors that day (Dr. and Mrs. Randolph, Orville Fay, Dr. E. L. Clark of Evanston with his camera, and Mrs. Editha Hudson and Mrs. R. E. Greenlee being the others present when we were there), so we had a fine opportunity to see and study the host of fine new dwarfs.

One which everybody liked was Paul Cook's No. 4300, a lovely lavender pink which resembled a tiny Japanese iris in form, and certainly

deserved the H. C. award it later received. In the Welch seedlings were two very blue ones. I believe that J-501, a *pumila* species seedling of flax blue of good form, 4½ inches high, and with a blue beard, will be introduced next year. It is so early that it blooms even before *Atroviolacea*! I liked very much his H-503, a sister seedling of *neglecta* pattern—the falls bordered with the lighter blue of the standards. Another nice one was a blue-green bitone. Everybody liked J-518—a tiny Pinnacle whose falls appear to be even brighter yellow than Pinnacle.

Walter was very happy about a row of raspberry and mulberry deep pinks, a white, a 'lime-colored' self, and a bicolor with white standards and olive falls—second generation seedlings of *Chamaeiris* x *arenaria* in which he has broken through the barrier of infertility which has formerly retarded progress in this breeding.

During the tall bearded iris season, some of the newer irises in this region which I particularly liked were Fay's new white *Tranquility*, Graves' equally lovely white *Helen McKenzie*, Lapham's *Paradise Pink* and of course Fay's exciting *Truly Yours*. Jay Ackerman's beautiful garden at Lansing is outstanding among Michigan gardens for its wealth of very new iris offerings. It was quite late in the season when I saw it but it still displayed hundreds of irises. Outstanding was Welch's *Blue Blazes*—a winning seedling two years ago at our Fort Wayne meeting, which is giving a very good account of itself wherever it is grown. It is lighter than medium blue, a penetrating sort of blue, with very broad standards and falls, and a very large bloom. Beside *Helen McKenzie*, Jay was blooming another New England iris—*Corporal Mary*, which I also liked. Lapham's red *Pacemaker* was good, and we all agreed that his *Paradise Pink* is the best of its color—in a group of pinks it is outstanding. This garden is coming to be justly known as the finest collection of new things in Michigan.

Our regional meeting this year was arranged by our new Southwestern Michigan Iris Society, which has existed only since December, and they did a fine job. For this and for other details of the region, I am indebted to the following report of Walter Welch, Bulletin representative for Region 6:

"Our regular annual Regional Meet was held June 2-3, at Battle Creek and Kalamazoo, Michigan, our host being the new Southwestern Michigan Iris Society. As an initial performance by this new club, it is to be highly commended—for its fine displays of iris, its co-ordination and efficiency in handling the details and especially for the gracious spirit of hospitality and friendliness exhibited everywhere. The attendance of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Curtis of Cincinnati (Oriental poppy breeder) was a pleasant note. Both were so young in spirit, so sparkling in their vivacity that they endeared themselves to all of us forever.

"Banquet speakers were Earl Evans of Fort Wayne, Indiana (now

our new R.V.P.), Walter Buss of Vincennes and Walter Welch—all from “back home in Indiana”; John Briggs of Kalamazoo, Michigan (president of the new host society) was M.C., and Jay Ackerman ended the fine evening with excellent kodachrome slides and a report on the Shreveport meeting.

“It was at this meeting that Mrs. George D. Robinson (Fern to us) announced her resignation as R.V.P. to take on the duties of Associate Registrar—at which time a devoted membership offered a token of their esteem, taking her completely off guard. But Fern is not retiring from active duty for the Region, and will still be around working for its interests.

“In the fall of 1950 we initiated a trial meeting of our Hybridizers Round Table at the Elkhart Hotel, Elkhart, Indiana, which was highly successful. We contemplate repeating this meet this fall, believing it is of great value in keeping group interest alive throughout the year—as well as offering the opportunity of serious discussion on iris problems and aims.

“Not all of this report is commendable and laudatory. There are vast areas where little iris interest is yet shown. Much has been accomplished in the last two years, but active interest is still restricted to certain localities in which some notable breeder or some energetic enthusiast has established a following. Our meetings and tours could be better attended. Particularly our ‘big names’ should get around more, lend their prestige and encouragement to the little fellows, who will be our future bearers of the torch. Every member of this Region should make it a point to visit some iris meet or display garden each spring—not only to see new things but to meet other iris members and get the most out of their membership. Certainly you are busy at that time of year—your officers are busy too—but you can’t just stay at home and get the most out of your hobby! Let’s all attempt to attend at least one iris affair each year, and *you* be the judge as to whether it is worth the time!

“Our own travels were limited this year, but we did get around to the Paul Cook, Doc Jonas, Earl Evans, Lapham, Mary Williamson, Frances Horton and Ackerman gardens, as well as the Regional Meet. At the latter we saw the large plantings of Bloese, the Chas. Streibich garden, the Kalamazoo gardens of Briggs, Savage and Bacon, and the newly planted garden of Fern Robinson. At the Lansing garden of Jay Ackerman we saw all of the latest varieties, grown and displayed to perfection.

“Paul Cook’s garden at Bluffton, Indiana, has the distinction of being the Mecca of all iris lovers, not only of our own Region but of members from distant places. Here one expects to see many of the newest varieties as well as his vast rows of fine seedlings—and one is never disappointed. To have the privilege of seeing his No. 38-50 blue-black super self, all beruffled, of perfect form, tall and strong, with its dark beard—in fact

the 'perfect' iris—was well worth the trip alone. To this add his other outstanding things such as the clear blues, reds, and new types of variegatas, and realize his careful, painstaking work which produces all this. It is impressive to watch the progress of some 'queer' cross which eventually brings out a new color or pattern. For several years I have watched his *I. imbricata* hybrids; this year they reached the point where people stood in admiration at the new 'break.' It wasn't a 'break'—but was carefully and gradually built up from the species.

"Out at Lapham's we found a very large, ruffled, deep and warm pink (C-36) which may not be a contender for the pinkest pink since it has some shadings of orange and apricot, but for sheer beauty of rich coloring in the pink range it is magnificent. And his Paradise Pink is the finest thing in that color which I saw this year.

"Michigan has broken out with a contagion of iris clubs and I would like to see it spread to Ohio and Indiana. Never have I witnessed such enthusiasm for iris as is prevalent at the moment in that area. The Mio irisarians always have and report a fine show, and the rather new Central Michigan Iris Society at Flint is demonstrating to the iris world how to get members—and then KEEP them! Chas. Morgan, who spark-plugged this crusade, reports that their show had attendance of over eight hundred (only their second or third, too) and he is personally to be credited with most of the increased membership in Michigan—and its enthusiasm.

"Fern Robinson received enthusiastic reports from the show staged by the ever-active Newcastle, Indiana group, and from a new iris society formed only this spring in Eastern Indiana. One of the moving spirits of this venture is Forrest McCord of Muncie, a member of two iris robins in Region 6—of boundless enthusiasm for iris and a bubbling spring of humor.

"We have received no reports from the Columbus Iris Society of Ohio, but for a number of years they have conducted splendid iris shows. Nor have we had reports from the Cleveland group, where there are some wonderful gardens, a fine membership and spirit.

"The Southern Michigan Iris Society at Detroit is conducting their Test Garden on a well-laid foundation, and very successfully. As mentioned earlier, the new Southwestern Michigan Iris Society staged a fine Regional Meet this spring. Since this involved much work for a new club no competitive show was attempted, but plans are being made to have one next year.

"It would seem that some plan of co-ordination and co-operation among the various iris societies in a region might be devised, under the supervision of the R.V.P., which would be of mutual benefit to all concerned.

"Our great need here is not particularly more members just as an end,

so much as it is better qualified members who grow in interest and activity. That can be attained by getting around and meeting our fellow enthusiasts, seeing the other fellow's face as well as his iris—and forming contacts which keep iris interest at a high pitch all year round, not just at bloom time.”

To this last paragraph I, retiring as Regional Vice-President, can add a fervent Amen. We have at last aroused much iris interest in our region, and I have strong faith that this interest will continue to grow under Earl Evans, our new R.V.P.,—but he can't do it without the help of all the fine members of Region 6. All R.V.P.'s *must* have the solid backing of their membership—that spirit of willing and friendly co-operation which makes a region great.

Report from Region 7

MRS. T. B. REVELL, JR., Miss.

The unusual weather conditions experienced by Region Seven for the past year have been very discouraging. Only flowers with an iron constitution could take it, and indeed many iris rhizomes perished.

Because of the fact that the convention in Shreveport was so near the time we usually have our regional get-together, our only pilgrimage was to the beautiful gardens of our members in Memphis. Though their gardens suffered from our freakish winter, the damage was possibly not as permanent, nor as severe as more southerly points. Most of the best of the new iris introductions can be seen in the Memphis gardens. Some of the local seedlings they proudly displayed this spring were superb. Notable among them is a lovely yellow, which we met under No. 50-33, in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Fox. Frankly this beautiful iris “has everything” and we are quite proud that it first saw the light of day in Region Seven.

John Pierce is something of a miracle worker for he can produce more beauty in his “back yard” than most people do on a ten acre farm. His latest creations are very, very lovely, possessing color, form, and substance. They are Memphis Belle (perhaps seen by many in the region under No. 49-08) and Icecapade (No. 49-26); and his newest is an ethereally pure white most appropriately named Maid of Cotton. We have all recognized in John one of our most promising young hybridizers.

Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Ward down in Jackson, Miss., are spreading the “Iris Disease” in those parts. They have recently remade their already attractive garden and incorporated many of the newer varieties including Cloudcap, which so nearly stole the show in Minnie Colquitt's garden in Shreveport this year, and their garden will be visited by hundreds of people in 1952.

We in Grenada have not been asleep at the post. Our local Iris Garden is being constantly improved by the addition of newer and better varieties. Our visitors this year were most kind in their compliments and constructive criticisms, and our only disappointment was that the AIS visitors who saw it as they went down to Shreveport did not see it a week later, as we saw it upon our return from the convention. Your regional vice-president has made several talks to clubs, in the interest of iris, and the American Iris Society, and has given away many rhizomes, roots, and bulbs of our favorite flower. Mrs. J. K. Avent, of Grenada, has also been quite active, speaking to clubs, and donating iris from her garden to encourage flower lovers to plant more iris. Her latest gift was several bushel baskets of rhizomes to an organization of colored women of our town. They voted to use the iris as the one flower they would feature in the improvement of their home gardens. This was very gratifying, since it is the official flower of the town, and one which will grace with equal ease the gardens of everyone.

The annual convention in Shreveport was delightful and while it was perhaps not such a complete surprise and revelation to the writer as it was to many AIS members, it was like a visit to another world to a few. One of the most interesting side lights of the trip was watching the indifferent and disdainful gradually being hypnotized by the charm and grace of our southern beauties (iris, of course). Several were honest enough to admit the fact.

The members of Region Seven hope to have a get-together in the Fall, if world conditions permit. What a wonderful time will be had, as we talk about iris, look at iris, and then go to our various homes to dream about iris.

Membership Drive in Region Seven

Last year I signed up Mrs. Lem Barlow as a new member—this year Mrs. Barlow organized a new club named Whitehaven Iris Club. She called me to see if we were still giving \$3.50 worth of iris to new members. I said that plan was no longer in effect but that I personally would undertake the plan. In this way we have signed up sixteen new members. (She had already added two new ones and has the promise of several others.) Then Mrs. Barlow was persuaded to make hers a family membership.

Mr. R. N. Banks of Hollywood, Mississippi, who has just finished re-marking his iris garden presented us with a great many of his surplus iris. Many of these were used in the program, many more will be used later. Mrs. E. R. Fox is now starting on her beds so she is taking care of some of the new members from Memphis. Sue Revell, our Regional vice-president came up and made a very inspiring talk to the new club

and aroused a great deal of interest in the unusual species of the iris in which she specializes.

The whole affair has been considerable bother and work but it will be worth all that, and then some, if it means even six interested, working members for the AIS. And we hope the percentage will be much higher than that. We know this plan of getting new members works out well. John Pierce has thoroughly demonstrated that over a period of years. The surest way to inoculate a person with Iris Fever is to expose him to a gift of some beautiful iris. It's almost a certainty that if he is interested enough to plant them in the first place he's a "gone gosling"—and so far there is no cure. Why don't some of the rest of you try this plan? In three or four years, everyone develops a surplus of iris. What better use could you put them to than bringing in new members to the AIS? You do a great service to the Society and to the person you interest in iris. And don't hesitate because your iris are old ones. Many are the most beautiful of all in the garden and most of them flourish in almost any location so they are especially fitted for beginners. They will be so intrigued with their garden and the bewitching new catalogues that they'll add new ones just as soon as their financial status equals their interest.—SERLINA REYNOLDS, Tenn.

Report from Region 10

MRS. MILTON TRICHEL, R.V.P., La.

Since a full account of the Shreveport meeting has already appeared in the Bulletin the only thing I wish to do is to comment that our weather has behaved with uncontrollable perversity, both before and after the events that led to the meeting's postponement. This summer while our friends in Region 18 were having unprecedented floods we were having unprecedented heat and drouth. The last really good rain before September 13, was in October of last year, and in the August just past we had the highest average temperatures our weather bureau has encountered in its seventy-nine year existence, the least rain, and eighteen days when the thermometer recorded one hundred degrees or more. Until yesterday's noble rain (almost two inches, falling slowly) September has been almost as bad as August.

Most of us will recover and so will our iris, I hope, but it has been an arduous experience.

Fortunately, when the rains and cooler weather come we soon forget our ordeal by fire and begin to hatch big plans for next year, more members, more communication between members, by Robins, Regional Bulletins, personal letters or visits.

The Louisiana Society in its early days got out a mimeographed letter about six times a year. Very good too, but they were written by perhaps

a dozen of our Louisiana Iris experts and you cannot ask the same people to continue indefinitely to instruct us—or can you?

Now that it is cool enough to think I want to go into this subject with other members and our indispensable Marie Caillet. She will get any material mimeographed and mailed for us.

As you doubtless know Ira Nelson is doing some special research work at Cornell University this year, and Marie has been shaking the dust of many places from her shoes this summer. Now Marie is in harness again and Ike and his family promise to come home in February. I hope they enjoy their adventure, but I hope they do not stay too long.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard (Joe and Jackie) are home again after their year at Cornell. I feel better to have them at home. I seem to be jealous of Cornell.

I think all that carried me through this summer of heat and drouth, is the memory of the delightful people I met during the Annual AIS Meeting this spring, and the many delightful letters I have received from them. Flower people are as delightful as flowers, it seems to me, and words can say no more.

Report of Region 11

MRS. RALPH S. NELSON, R.V.P., Idaho.

As an introduction of Region 11 (Idaho, Montana and Wyoming) I should give you an estimate of its size which is roughly 500 miles north and south and 700 miles east and west, with the Rocky Mountains and Continental Divide running through western Montana and Wyoming. The greatest difficulty in giving a report of iris performance in this region is that the climate varies so vastly. Most of Idaho lies west of the great mountains and has a much milder climate than the Montana and Wyoming sections, south Idaho being warmer even than the northern part of the state. The mountainous regions of western Montana and Wyoming have a very bitter winter climate and short growing summer season while the eastern plains sections are more like those of the mid-western states. I have tried to obtain reports from all sections of my region and my preliminary geography lesson may help you to understand why the reports vary so greatly, as to winter damage, season and bloom performance.

In February I started preparation for a new regional directory and sent questionnaires to all members with a full page of questions on many subjects such as the number and variety of iris grown, whether garden was open to visitors and when, whether they hybridized, belonged to a robin, kept records, had a slide collection and, lastly, their five favorite iris. The data obtained was compiled into a directory and sent to all

the regional members in March. In this questionnaire we received the names of 17 who would contribute slides to a regional slide collection. Mr. and Mrs. Hickenlooper of Preston, Idaho are handling the slide collection for us. All members were eager for a fall regional bulletin which I hope to get out. With the directory were sent out plans for our membership campaign. Mrs. Thomas Speedy of Twin Falls, Idaho was our able chairman and we adopted a plan similar to that of last year, of giving premium iris for new members, and members were reimbursed with iris from your RVP's garden. This plan was very successful, and we got 53 new members which is a 50% increase in our membership.

Mrs. Sidney W. Smith is compiling a regional iris symposium which will probably come out in our fall bulletin.

I received two differing reports from Wyoming. Mrs. Lowell Storm of Chugwater in the southeast wrote, "We've never had a more promising season here and certainly have never had a more dismal failure. First, we had a severe freeze when TB bloom stalks were showing color. Then when the iris was recovering and sending up some good side stalks, a devastating hail came. But after depending on wheat for many years, we developed the habit of living for next year." On the other hand, Mr. Kenneth Moore of Sheridan, Wyoming in the northeast section wrote that their iris bloom was very good this year despite a frost in June. Mr. Moore does a great deal of hybridizing and his registered seedling Tensleep bloomed in my garden and was very unusual. It was a brilliant deep blue plicata with a vividly contrasting orange beard. Mr. Moore gave an entire plicata seedling to the local Edith Post Gallatin Garden Club (AIS) to name and sell for the benefit of the club and another outstanding seedling to the Billings, Montana Garden Club. This seems a wonderful way to foster iris interest.

The Montana reports showed a very discouraging season. Mrs. William J. Regan of Butte wrote, "Snow melted and froze into ice in which the iris were incased for long periods, and June nights had temperatures in the 20s. I lost 60 varieties. A new community center is on a triangular plot of ground with curved corners and roads on three sides. In these graceful curves I have made beds of iris in harmonious colors, and also some *hemerocallis*. If all goes well, in a year or so, it should really put out the eyes of the passer by, it is so conspicuous, and I feel will do a lot to popularize iris in this city."

Last year the Horticultural Dept., of Montana State College started an iris test garden at Corvallis in western Montana. The region members contributed about 150 varieties of iris to this garden. Mr. A. L. Richardson, the Supt., reported the same devastating winter and spring weather that Mrs. Regan did and they lost all but 66 varieties. The Cooleys contributed additional plants this summer and your RVP sent a large box.

Any surplus the members can contribute to this garden would be gratefully received. Write Mr. Richardson for the list.

Mrs. Sidney W. Smith of Twin Falls sent in the following report:

Interest in iris continues high in southern Idaho. The Magic Valley Iris Society, organized last September at Twin Falls, held the following meetings:—

Dec. 2, at Twin Falls, when a showing of 200 slides from Region 18 formed the main program. The Society's constitution, prepared by Mrs. C. W. Vallette was approved. A gift of appreciation was given to Mrs. S. W. Smith, retiring RVP. Following the meeting tea and wafers were served by Mrs. T. W. Hicks and Mrs. Thomas Speedy.

March 1, again at Twin Falls, a luncheon brought some 50 iris growers together to hear Mrs. Hanley Payne talk on dwarf iris and show slides secured from Walter Welch. To acquaint members with the region's new RVP, Mrs. R. S. Nelson, slides of the Nelson garden were also shown.

May 12, saw the irisarians at a luncheon meeting at Appleton, across the river from Twin Falls. The feature of the program was a talk by Mrs. Estelle Ricketts on her pre-AIS convention trip to Louisiana. Mrs. Ed Conrad, the president, demonstrated iris hybridizing.

June 2, the Society successfully staged its first AIS sponsored show, a detailed account of which will appear under Exhibitions. Mrs. C. W. Vallette and Mrs. James Maher, AIS accredited judges for the cultural section considered the show most outstanding for the area.

June 6, the proposed iris tour took place. About 30 persons met at 10 A.M. in the Twin Falls Park to travel by private cars to Burley and Delco. Gardens visited included those of Mrs. Vallette, Mrs. Annie Gierisch, Mrs. Merle Clayville, Mrs. K. C. Barlow and Mrs. Charles Randall. The noon lunch was held at Mrs. Clayville's where coffee was served, and salad and dessert furnished by Mrs. Ruby Church of Heyburn and Mrs. George Conglryon of Burley. Just Annie, a lovely white and yellow from Muhlestein was seen in the Gierisch garden. Two of Mrs. Vallette's seedlings, Pearlimohr and Gutorm are being tested by Tell Muhlestein.

Aug. 4, a sale of iris rhizomes donated by members was held at Twin Falls City Park, greatly replenishing the club treasury.

The Twin Falls Garden Club had a joint meeting of the iris, rose, chrysanthemum and hemerocallis sections on Feb. 14th for a showing of slides of iris, hems, and mums from Region 18, furnished by Ray Rickman of Joplin, Mo. Another showing of slides was given in April when Mrs. Smith received the robin set of slides.

In late April the Harold Odles (AIS), returning from Arizona to their Montana home on Flathead Lake, stopped overnight at the S. W. Smith ranch. A small party was arranged at the Arthur Walker home

where Mr. Odle showed an exceptionally interesting collection of slides depicting desert flowers, and mounted specimens of agate slices. Mr. Odle is a lapidary. Mrs. Odle, an artist, displayed her collection of shell jewelry.

Mrs. Glen Suiter, who is retiring from the commercial field, presented a program for the Iris Gardeners Club at Caldwell. She will devote her time to seedlings (5,000 to look forward to next year) and to growing iris for pleasure. Her "Sun Lakes," an unfading light blue is much admired.

In January when the nurserymen in the Boise area held their 3rd annual two day garden school, the topic "A Lot About Iris" was covered by a slide program given by Mrs. S. W. Smith. Another slide program was given before the Garden Club at Montpelier, Idaho by Mrs. L. M. Winters of Twin Falls. The iris, grown at an altitude of 6,000 feet, was shown from the garden of Mr. Robert L. Jensen. Mr. Jensen has about 1,000 varieties and his plant markers give variety, parentage and year of introduction, thus proving educational to interested visitors. Mrs. Winters was particularly interested in Cahokia, Barbara Luddy, Francelia and Illinois Sunshine.

In North Idaho three talks on iris were given by Mrs. Ralph S. Nelson for Garden Clubs and new slides taken in her garden this summer were shown."

Region 11 Membership Report

At the close of our membership drive for new members in Region 11, as membership chairman, I submit the following report:

Mrs. Ralph Nelson has furnished her iris roots as premiums to cover all new memberships and bonuses, the total of which is shown here.

Mrs. Ralph S. Nelson, 5 members	\$17.00
Mrs. Stone, 5 members plus bonus	22.50
Mr. Harold Odle, 6 members plus \$5.00 bonus	26.00
Mrs. Lowell Storm, 3 members	10.50
Mrs. S. W. Smith, 2 members	7.00
Mrs. Thos. E. Speedy, 5 members plus \$15.00 bonus.....	32.50
Mrs. C. W. Vallette, 3 members	10.50
	<hr/>
	\$126.00

We are very grateful to Mrs. Nelson who has given a lot of time at one of the busiest seasons of the year to help boost our membership, and who has given donations of roots for door prizes and show prizes at the iris show.

These things all help tremendously to make bigger successes of the projects which we undertake and acquaint more people with the better iris, thus furthering the best interest of the Society.—MRS. THOMAS E. SPEEDY, Ida., *Membership Chairman*, Region 11.

1951 Report from Region 12

M. D. NAYLOR, R.V.P., Utah.

A regional report should be interesting, not only to the dyed-in-the-wool trouper, but to the newcomers in our group as well. In fact, these are the ones whose interest we must catch and hold if the American Iris Society is to grow as it should. This report will therefore touch on a number of subjects, which may not be consistent with customary reports of this kind, but which may nevertheless contain a few items of interest for those most important people, our new members.

This year we have had some fellows around these parts dabbling with our weather, trying to make rain for us during the drought and trying to stench the flow of our recent floods. In any event, since early Spring we've had a very queer time of it. During iris season, the early sorts bloomed with the lates and the midseason varieties just started early and were still at it toward the very end. Our peak bloom, if there was such a thing, came about June 1, which is the latest I ever recall it. As a result, our local Utah Iris Society was obliged to twice postpone the dates of the sixth annual show and it was finally staged on June 2-3.

The setting for the Salt Lake City show is very nearly ideal. Situated in the center of a large park, the Porter-Walton Company all-glass showrooms are spacious and airy and the lighting is perfect. We believe that this is the largest show for iris exclusively held in the entire country at the present time, and it is possible that our local American Iris Society affiliate is the largest of its kind (221 members). And maybe you think we're not planning a honey of a show in case the visiting firemen should decide to come to Salt Lake City in 1955.

A committee, of which I was asked to be chairman, got together before this year's show and drew up a classification list of modern iris varieties, placing each, according to its color, in twenty-two major color classes. This list is by no means a complete color guide and no doubt could stand considerable revision, but it proved a boon to our receiving and classification committees, and I am sending a copy of it along with this report to the central office, so that it may be made available to others who may find it of interest.

I have already hinted that the Utah Iris Society has invited the national Society to hold an early national convention in Salt Lake City and I take the liberty to quote just a single paragraph from our letter of invitation to President Rogers: "Salt Lake City . . . lies in the valley of the Great Salt Lake at an altitude of 4,200 feet and is surrounded by mountains rising a mile from the valley floor. It has the most beautiful and inspiring natural setting of any city in America." Presuming that a large percentage of the members would come by car to such a meeting, there is a world of exotic beauty to be seen, regardless

of the direction from which you come. Bryce, Zion and Grand Canyons, to name but a few, are close by and are without counterpart. Furthermore, you may rest assured that local members are preening their gardens and plotting new ones, just in case . . .

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Board of Directors has adopted the following tentative schedule of annual meetings—1953, Boston, Mass; 1954 Hamilton, Ont.; 1955, Salt Lake City, Utah; 1956, Kansas City, Mo.*)

Just before the beginning of the blooming season I wrote to a goodly number of our members living in the far reaches of the rather vast and scattered domain which we know as District 12. In my letters I intimated that I planned to visit them either en route to or from Shreveport and asked about iris prospects in the various localities. In every case I received a most interesting letter in reply and it is gratifying to note the enthusiasm which exists, even where gardens are maintained under somewhat trying circumstances. We have some wonderful people who are Society members in both Arizona and New Mexico. But it was not to be that I should visit them. On May 2 I was rushed to the hospital with a coronary occlusion and I saw no iris bloom in my garden or any other garden for that matter this year. We have to learn to take these things in stride, I suppose, and I derived a wee bit of satisfaction from Dr. Mitchell's admonition at Portland that "No man dies with a bunch of unbloomed seedlings" or words to that effect. I decided I mustn't die. I didn't.

Later this month I shall motor to Logan, Utah to confer with Professor S. W. Edgecombe, Head of the Botany Department of the Utah State Agricultural College, regarding the establishment of an iris trial garden at the Ogden Experimental Farms where new iris seedlings intended for introduction can be given a two year growing test. Each variety under observation will be awarded a Certificate of Merit with a final designated rating of AA, A, B, C, D, or P and the tests will be run by men of unquestioned reliability. While definite plans are being formulated, I should welcome suggestions from growers everywhere.

There is an ever increasing interest among local iris lovers toward hybridizing and this is a healthy growth sign. Our better breeders within the district's confines are at it in dead earnest and enthusiasm is at high tide. Tell Muhlestein reports an unusually fine batch of seedlings and among his distinguished visitors this year were Mr. and Mrs. Fred DeForest, both charming people who motored down from up Oregon way. Then too, I want to mention Mr. Fisher Harris and compliment him on his work and remarkable success with the *Oncocyclus* and kindred species. Our climate is similar in many respects to their home environment and they seem to want to make a go of it here rather than to pine away from homesickness. There is increased interest in their culture from many different sources.

Report from Region 13

MRS. ALBERT HAASE, R.V.P., Wash.

I will not go into any discussion about the weather this past season, as I believe everyone knows that it was very unseasonable. Our bloom was very poor and not representative. A few places were more or less sheltered and had fairly normal bloom. A very wet fall and a cold winter without much snow really did a lot of damage.

On May 18, Mr. and Mrs. Losey and myself left Walla Walla for Portland. The next day I took the bus to Monroe, Oregon to visit Irisnoll, home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred DeForest. Mr. DeForest had lots of bloom (in spite of his talk about the weather) and a view of his plantings as we drove in was wonderful. Iris time is always a thrill to me when I see the beautiful colors in mass plantings. Mr. DeForest very kindly escorted me around and I hate to be limited in writing about all the seedlings and new introductions as well as older iris, as I could write pages and pages.

Mrs. DeForest very kindly invited me to have lunch with them and I might say that she is as good a cook as her husband is a hybridizer! Thanks again, Mrs. DeForest.

On Sunday I met the Loseys again at Cooley's in their large show house at Silverton. Both Mrs. Cooley and her daughter were more than busy making arrangements for displaying. This is an especially nice way to view irises.

We traveled on down to Bob Schreiner's where we saw blocks and blocks of irises. I much prefer seeing them this way rather than walking down rows. They were very effective in clumps. Many of the new introductions were not in bloom or were not going to bloom, the weather being at fault again. The Schreiners have a lot of interesting seedlings coming along and it will be nice to visit there again next season.

From Salem we journeyed on back to the National Iris Gardens at Beaverton. There the irises are arranged alphabetically which does make it easier to find what you may be looking for. Mrs. Bradbury from Vancouver writes me that in the pinks Afar in the National Iris Gardens was very lovely and not faded in the bright sun as were Pink Cameo, Spindrift and a few others. She also writes me that the same garden had two pink seedlings which they might introduce. Mrs. Bradbury says that her special interest is a group of about forty old Cayeux iris which she pampers and maintains separately from the modern ones. She is always looking for more of them, so if you have any to spare just write her.

Back to Portland in the evening, we were ready to stop looking at irises for awhile. Enroute back to Walla Walla the next Monday we

were ready to get back at them again, so Mr. Losey decided it wasn't any further to go by Yakima so there we went and made our first stop at Mr. Linse's Easy Breeze Gardens. His irises were, without question, the best grown we had seen on the trip. His home plantings had protection so they had not suffered from the weather. I was very much attracted to a couple of his Extravaganza seedlings and will be interested to see them again next year.

At Chandler's Brookside Gardens, Cloth of Gold was very well liked. There too, many new irises failed to bloom so we have a lot to look forward to next season. My own garden was hurt this year, with very little bloom, as were also the gardens of Mrs. McDouall and Mrs. Losey. Mrs. Tom Brown, whose irises always bloom earlier than most, had an excellent planting with well-grown irises. She is doing some hybridizing and has some of the lavender shades with tangerine beards that I find so lovely. Mrs. Jake Smith at Waitsburg had a couple of especially interesting seedlings, one with a pearly color with lots of glitter that may turn out to be either good itself or good to work with. Leading Lady in her garden was very nice.

Of course, we are all trying to compare the pinks as to which is the pinkest, etc., but we will have a lot more to choose from in the next two or three years judging from the efforts being put forth by the hybridizers, and more power to them! I have not heard from Gordon Plough in Wenatchee, but he did some visiting in Seattle and I hope that he will have a report on what he saw there. I missed him at Yakima. I believe we are making lots of progress here in Region No. 13 and there is a great deal of interest in our favorite flower.

Mrs. L. B. Losey, College Place, Washington has consented to be the news editor of our region, so anyone having news please be sure to contact her. Mrs. Jake Smith of Waitsburg, Washington is taking charge of slides for the American Iris Society and Mrs. Tom Brown, Walla Walla, Washington, has slides for the region. Anyone wishing to donate slides for either collection may get in touch with them.

In closing this report, my wish is that next season we might have a "normal" blooming season!

Region 13

MRS. L. B. LOSEY

Those who have gone on a trip of 800 miles or more just to visit iris gardens and see what is new and interesting will understand how thrilled we were to go to Portland, Oregon and vicinity on May 18. Our R.V.P., Mrs. Albert Haase with the writer and friend husband planned this trek in order to see iris at their best. Some forty-five miles south of Portland are Cooley's Gardens. Their show rooms were filled with iris arrangements from their fields and we recognized Mrs. Cooley's artistic touch in their beauty.

A few of the new ones were: Ballerina, with arched standards, good substance, and very ruffled, is a nice pink. Tally Ho, a pink of lavender tones with deeper color in the large falls, crinkled edges and more good substance. Fuchsia was an outstanding lavender pink, on the fuchsia side, with dark buds and arched standards, full and round. Rosabella reminded one of Inspiration, with closed standards, flaring falls and copper tones in the haft and a golden beard, it has excellent garden value. Lovelight is a silvery mauve, with nice rounded form and creamy-buff shadings, crinkled edges, domed standards and another nice golden beard.

Spanish Fandango is a beautiful iris; stately and large; carrying the bloom on good branches, it has so many fine points it is hard to say enough for it. Some think it is an improved City of Lincoln, but I think it is far better than that.

At Dr. Kleinsorge's Garden in Silverton, we found some outstanding seedlings that probably will some day be among the 100 Best Iris of the Symposium. It is amazing what one can do on a city lot with cross pollination. This doctor, famous for his hybridizing, enjoys the work of his hands here, and so do all who visit that small plot across the street from his home.

About 25 miles away the Schreiner Brothers are busy hybridizers also. They have some fine "Blacks" growing; and here we find Pinnacle at its best, where it was introduced. A seedling I-26 is a cross of Pink Tower and Radiation. This has fine finish, with good substance, in mauve pink. Raspberry Ribbon, a plicata of merit, with wide, closed standards, and heavy substance makes a desirable iris. Vernal Peace is a bicolor with creamy closed standards and cool, soft yellow falls. This one is well named. It is a real pleasure to visit the Schreiner's fields and meet these two friendly men.

Farther north, the National Iris Gardens are located on a hill out of Beaverton, Oregon, and here you meet kindly Mrs. Weed. Her iris are in rows alphabetically arranged and one can locate the iris you want to see very easily.

East of Portland, near Boring, Walter Marx's garden is set among tall firs and shrubbery, where many kinds of bulbs and plants feel at home in ideal conditions. With sun and shade both provided, he achieves excellent results. Here were more seedlings, with one ruffled white most outstanding of all.

Mrs. Albert Haase took the bus south to Monroe, Oregon to visit Fred DeForest's Garden. Here she saw some of his new things and the Introductions of 1951. His Cloudcap is an exceptionally large, fine pink. This is the home of Argus Pheasant you know.

Our next stop was Yakima Valley and Easy Breeze Gardens where Jack Linse and wife greeted us. Growing amidst the cherry trees, their

iris showed that protection had kept them from winter injury, so prevalent everywhere. The brown soil produced splendid growth with excellent bloom. Their new introductions were very nice. Spellbound is a blend of large proportions with wide flaring falls, and standards held tightly closed. An excellent increaser with high branching. There is old gold and copper and russet to be found here, blending beautifully in this grand iris. Whispers was grown not far from Pinnacle and is just the reverse in color. Ripples is a charming iris, well named, for the standards and falls are both rippled, in a self blue that is different. Mr. Linse is coming to the front with his hybridizing work. He had a large, fine pink in bloom that was most attractive.

The Iris Test Gardens, where we met Mr. Alexander Maxwell, had plenty of bloom all over his fields. Here we saw Topflight that is a grand, soft yellow with good form, size and substance and plenty of ruffles. Bright Song was in bloom also and made a most beautiful picture. Chinook Pass is a large blue similar to Helen McGregor that does not seem to fade in the sun. It will take the place of Helen in some gardens and deserves its wide recognition.

Homeward bound after four days of enjoyment and then to look over our own gardens to see what had bloomed since we left. Although they were past the peak of the season we thoroughly enjoyed the bloom on Belle Amie, the lemon-ice iris. Extravaganza just coming out with the first bloom. Campfire Glow was still glowing, and Amandine and Spanish Peaks unfolded their beauty with Argus Pheasant standing tall with smooth coloring and excellent form against the setting sun.

Reviewing the lovely iris in all the gardens and thinking especially of the pinks, we agreed that Pink Sensation was the cleanest, pinkest Pink of all, and we saw all the new ones.

Additional News Items of Region No. 13

Mrs. Rose Dightman and Mrs. Joseph Hunt of Tacoma were visiting Cooley's Garden on May 20th. They said a new Iris Club had been formed in Tacoma recently.

* * *

On May 23-25 Region 13 met in Walla Walla for the first time. Thursday evening was spent viewing slides at the home of Mrs. Albert Haase, with a fine group of members present from different parts of the Region. Friday, the Annual Iris Show was held in the lobby of the Marcus Whitman hotel. The Management had invited the Show considering it a real attraction for their patrons.

There were more and finer iris than ever shown before. Mrs. Opal Brown won the Silver medal given by the AIS for the largest number of firsts, with Austin Morgan coming a close second, winning the Bronze medal. Mrs. R. W. Evans won the AIS Sweepstakes for best specimen with Pinnacle.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Chandler of Brookside Gardens won the Bronze medal for their Commercial Exhibit. This was unique being built on a large circle with 8 niches, each with different pastel shaded backgrounds for the different specimens of iris. Mrs. Ralph S. Nelson, R.V.P. of Region 11, and Mrs. L. B. Losey were judges of the iris specimens and collections.

On Saturday several carloads visited Yakima gardens to put a "finale" to the three day treat for the members of region 13, who attended the Walla Walla meeting for 1951.

* * *

Roosevelt High school held their 3rd Annual Iris Show in Portland on May 11, at their May Fete in the school library. Dr. Matthew Riddle, an AIS Director, was the judge. A number of iris rhizomes were given as prizes by Dr. Riddle and several of the iris gardens.

* * *

The Blue Mountain Iris Club was organized in La Grande, Oregon in April, with Miss Eva Wear, Pres., Mrs. Wallace Westenskow, Vice Pres., and Mrs. L. V. Carlson, Sec-Treas. On June 2 they held an Iris Festival in the Sacajawea Hotel ball room with Mrs. Albert Haase as judge. Mrs. Cecil Wagner of La Grande was awarded the AIS Silver Medal for the most first prizes. She also won the Sweepstakes Silver Medal for the best stalk in the show with Treasure Island. Mrs. Wagner was first-time exhibitor in any kind of flower competition. Mrs. Wallace Westenskow of Imbler, Oregon, won the Bronze medal for second largest number of prizes.—MRS. L. B. LOSEY, Wash.

Report from Region 14

HAROLD I. JOHNSON, R.V.P., Calif.

Throughout most of this region, the iris season was the latest and longest in the memory of most iris growers. As late as May 30th, there was a fine display of blooms at the Berkeley gardens of Carl Salbach and Sydney Mitchell.

Although the late season cut down the number of varieties displayed at the two major iris shows held in this region, flower quality was good.

The first Sacramento iris show, held on April 24 and 25 attracted a large number of visitors. The best flower in the show was a superb bloom of Happy Days exhibited by Mrs. Harvey Hanson of North Sacramento. Lloyd Austin brought down from Placerville a fine exhibit of aril iris, which grow so well in the Sierra foothills.

The iris show at San Jose was held on May 5 and 6, with fine flower arrangement exhibits and good commercial displays by Miss Clara Rees and Mrs. Scoville. The best flower in the show was a well grown San Francisco.

Smaller iris displays were included in flower shows held at Modesto,

where the winner was Mrs. Alice Gruber, and in Los Altos where iris were displayed as part of a growing garden.

Noteworthy gardens, not mentioned in these reports before, included the large, informal planting of Mrs. J. L. Melrose in Modesto, who has one of the most complete iris collections in Northern California.

The use of iris species is increasing in gardens of this region. Even Dutch iris are coming back into their own with the advent of such spectacular varieties as Princess Irene.

Iris Season Activities in Southern California Region 15

MISS ARCHIE MACLEAN, R.V.P., Calif.

The iris season in southern California was unusual in many respects. It was a long season, lasting over many weeks. The first week of April Sheriffa was blooming and it is still blooming on the 10th of June in my garden. There seemed to be no peak of bloom. Many early varieties bloomed late. Some varieties did not bloom at all.

The season's activities started off with the Twelfth Annual Hollywood Iris Show, sponsored by Southern California Iris Society, and the American Iris Society. Those present voted it the best show of the twelve. A stalk of Fort Knox won the grand prize for best stalk.

Santa Barbara put on its First Iris Show, sponsored by American Iris Society, and with the blessings of the Southern California Iris Society. As the doors opened so did the heavens, and a downpour of rain descended. In spite of the rain, iris enthusiasts gathered and exclaimed over the beautiful displays. A stalk of China Maid was voted the best stalk of the show.

The winning of best stalk in the show by Fort Knox and China Maid bears out the contention many Southern Californians make, that iris developed here do best for us, while sometimes those developed in other areas do very poorly.

Several new seedlings were in evidence this season. Mr. David Lyon's The Mad Hatter, a tall well-branched red, as well as the Chieftan, a sister seedling were growing beautifully in their originator's garden.

Mrs. Douglas Pattison's White Peacock is a lovely white with wide falls at the haft. It was on perfect display at the Heimer Garden. In Mr. Nies' garden were several new Spurias—gold, blues, and browns. They will be something to look forward to in the Spuria group. Mr. Nies also grows Douglassianna. Amiquita is among the newer ones. To see it is to desire it. Mr. and Mrs. Luhrsen showed some interesting new Douglassianna and Innominata seedlings.

Miss Nies displayed several lovely seedlings: Desert Twilight, well named for the name describes it perfectly; 318-B, a ruffled orange yellow with yellow beard, as well as 196-C, a deep henna shade and ruffled, were

well worth taking a second look. Mr. Fielding's High Tor, a tall ruffled lavender blue, and Queen's Ruff, a ruffled white with horizontal falls and white beard, were much admired by garden visitors. Tom Craig's Punch Bowl caught the eye of the iris show visitors, as well as Night Moth, a 1950 introduction.

As usual, when we want to see the best in iris we go to Mrs. Heimer's garden in Van Nuys. This year, although some considered it a poor season, many of the newer varieties were putting on a show in the garden as late as May 5th; Purple Mohr, Bright Song, Clear Sailing, Dolly Varden, Heather Rose, New Horizons, Savage, Russet Wings, Heigho, Cap Bon, Auburn, Tournament, and many others.

The members of the Southern California Iris Society, and the American Iris Society Judges were invited to Mr. Clarence White's garden the last of March to view his display of *Oncocyclus*. Here we saw many of these iris in full bloom—real jewels of many colors. We had a further treat when Mr. White showed his kodachrome slides of *Oncocyclus*.

The members of the American Iris Society of Region 15 gathered at the Lyons' Iris Garden on May 5. We enjoyed the iris that were still in bloom and the beautiful display of iris flower arrangements prepared for us by the flower arrangers of the Valley. Mr. Marion Walker gave an account of the Annual Meeting of the American Iris Society at Shreveport.

Iris Kaempferi are blooming now which means the last of the iris bloom until the fall bloomers start. The Hopson's garden in Arcadia is showing some lovely seedlings of Iris Kaempferi, which is not too common a sight in southern California.

The season's activities closed with the June meeting of the Southern California Iris Society at La Casita in Pasadena. Mr. Marion Walker showed his colored slides taken at Shreveport. We all enjoyed this glimpse of Louisiana Iris and the notables at the annual meeting.

Report for Region 19

CATHERINE HEMINGWAY SMITH, R.V.P., New York.

The spring of 1951 brought benevolent weather conditions to Region 19. Our gardens were copiously filled with glorious iris blooms. Of course we had some rain and wind, and from time to time the sun was hot and strong, but these manifestations of the elements' power didn't seriously interfere with iris performance or garden visiting.

For wealth of bloom no flower garden can equal an iris garden; few iris plantings surpass that of K. D. Smith, Staten Island, N.Y. in perfection of detail and bold striking color.





New Jersey's Cedarbrook Park in Plainfield and Presby Memorial Garden in Montclair were spectacular with bloom and attracted hundreds of visitors. These two public iris plantings, of unquestionable benefit to the race of man and the genus iris, are maintained by New Jersey county park commissions and aided by gifts from local garden clubs, but each one owes its excellence to the unflagging zeal of an American Iris Society member. Mrs. F. P. Walther is the patron saint of the Presby Memorial Garden; Miss Harriette R. Halloway that of Cedarbrook Park.

The Iris Society of New Jersey held its annual meeting at the home of Mrs. F. P. Walther (which is adjacent to the Presby Memorial Garden) on May 26th. Mrs. Joseph Leibrecht, the retiring president, conducted the meeting at which officers for this organization were elected for the coming year; the new president is Mrs. Thomas Lausten of Mountainside, New Jersey. Members of Region 19 were invited to attend the meeting and visit the Presby Garden which was at peak bloom on that day.

A committee of members of the Iris Society of New Jersey, headed by Mrs. Walther, placed a fine collection of iris on display at the Annual Flower Show of the Garden Club of New Jersey, which was held on June 6th and 7th in Upper Montclair. Mr. F. W. Cassebeer exhibited, at the same show, well grown stalks of Blue Rhythm, Amandine, Cassebeer seedling No. 338, (since named Luggage Tan), a light tan blend, the falls marked with violet below the beard, and Cassebeer seedling No. 311, a large flaring medium blue (larger and bluer than Blue Rhythm); all were effectively arranged in a large crystal bowl and received a purple ribbon, the Special Award of the Garden Club of New Jersey.

Another commercial garden in Region 19 which has a comprehensive list of iris, both old and new, is that of Emil Wittman in Clifton, New Jersey.

A visit with Miss Halloway to the garden of Mr. H. F. Hall in Moorestown, New Jersey showed us that this hybridizer is achieving marked success in breeding red iris. His red ones are red, not red-purple. Some seem to have an undertone of yellow which enlivens the red and makes it very vivid.

My first view of Kenneth Smith's iris in '51 was on the 19th of May, a dull, misty, overcast day and yet I didn't miss the sun, there was so much color in the garden; all colors, glowing red, dark burnished copper and luminous light red; yellow, soft and bright and clear; tangerine pinks, lilac pinks, peach pinks and white; but the blues, so vibrant and pure, dominated all the rest, a bit of heaven here on earth. Such a sight makes a gardener's heart stand still. This beautifully landscaped garden, with its backgrounds of hemlocks, blue spruce, azaleas and other fine shrubs and trees, and distant view of the ocean, is a place of enchant-

ment throughout the four seasons. Three times a year the flower borders burst forth in glory, because each bed contains daffodils, iris and hemerocallis; so the same ground produces an altogether different miracle of color.

In May, while iris were blooming, plans were started for an Iris Show for Region 19 to be held on May 28, 1952. The Horticultural Society of New York is wholeheartedly co-operating with members of the AIS living in Region 19 to stage an important flower show for iris. At this date (July 1951) the schedule has been written and is in the hands of the printer. There will be classes for commercial and private growers.

Personalities and Flowers in Region 19

HARRIETTE HALLOWAY, N.J.

During the blooming season last May, your correspondent had the good fortune and pleasure to visit some of the gardens and fields of iris in the company of our Regional Vice-President. Seedlings and established plants at the home of Mr. H. F. Hall (Moorestown), who was most cordial, were very interesting. Other visitors came and went while we walked around taking notes. There are rumors that two seedlings—W74, handsome, large, tall white of good form and substance and R 164 a fine red—are to be introduced.

The same day we saw the comparatively new planting of Mrs. Donohoe near Clinton, New Jersey. She has a well chosen and well grown collection of bearded iris on the top of a grade with species in rather boggy soil at the bottom.

Another day we rode up to Sloatsburg (New York) in the forenoon to see Anson Peckham's originations. It was good to visit a bit with Ethel. We old-timers who owe her much have regretted our inability to see her more often of late years. Their varieties, upright in spite of a hard storm the previous day, have great garden value. Any color—clear or blend—is available there for a searcher who wants something special for a particular spot or combination. Currante, a beautiful white, long-lived flower of substance; Balookque, yellow standards with white yellow-edged falls; Tinghao, cream with glowing heart and low for front of border, and Morisk, lavender blend, are four which are especially noteworthy.

The same day we rode on to Mr. Cassebeer's and there's no use trying to give a full account of this planting. A lot of people were there, some garden visitors, some of our prominent regional members, and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Wills from Tennessee. Along the field rows the eyes constantly fell on attractive flowers in many shades—outstanding being No. 501, a pure white, No. 499 a medium blue, and No. 311, a very fine blue.

Seedling 311 showed well beside Blue Rhythm in a complimentary exhibit containing high class named varieties and some of his seedlings which Mr. Cassebeer brought to a flower show in Montclair on June seventh. That and another complimentary exhibit should be praised here as they were there. The other one, brought in from the Presby Memorial Planting by Mrs. Walther, its director, contained nearly thirty tall bearded varieties in wide range of color, well grown and well groomed.

Mention of the Presby flowers is a reminder to include something about those in the Iris Garden in Cedar Brook Park, Plainfield. The very early bulbous were charming; the near fifty varieties of dwarf bearded made excellent showings during the first week in May; many of the tall bearded were greatly praised—among them the handsome yellows and Blue Rhythm, generous surprise gifts from Mrs. Whiting; and Helen Collingwood, given to us as several other varieties of his have been by Mr. Smith.

Your correspondent, being in the garden, enjoyed Helen all day the day she opened well—most fortunately, for the next day she was gone! Some one else admired her so much that he had taken up the whole plant! That happened to several last year, including Lady Mohr, which were very kindly replaced for us by Miss Mary Williamson. Incidentally, how many who know well their fine varieties of tall bearded iris have grown Daystar, the little table iris? It has the cutest, eye-catching, little flowers.

For the last ten or a dozen years it has been my privilege to prowl all over Kenneth Smith's garden, thankful it was so comparatively near, and enjoy it to the full from all points of view of eyes and mind. This year was no exception. But how to report—where to begin—what to say—how to stop! Members who have been there will probably remember the cedar hedge at right angles to the house. The moving of that, farther away, opened up a much wider vista from the terrace. Other attractions have enhanced the fundamentally beautiful garden.

Many of Mr. Smith's outstanding new iris have been or will be reported in other ways, but here also emphasis should be given to a few. Mardi Gras, a very beautiful flower with pink lavender standards and velvety red-purple falls; a handsome medium blue with ruffled standards and flaring falls (50-44) named for your correspondent who appreciates the honor.

Serene Valley (50-12) an excellent blue; Grasmere (50-114) a light blue; Spellbinder (51-59) large tall pale yellow with gilt-edge white

Whites and blues dominate the foreground, variegatas, reds and amoenas give variety in the background in the K. D. Smith garden.





falls; (50-84) large cream bleaching to white, ruffled, good form and substance. Near the hemlocks was a charming plant (9-31) of Doxa coloring, with great substance, and in one of the beds a delightful primrose (51-21) ruffled, fine buds, green markings down the center of the falls. It would be possible to fill a whole page with list of names or numbers of varieties—clear colors, blends, interesting combinations. Most of the flowers having ruffled standards and flaring falls, style, and substance.

Although doings of members of the iris tribe should be mentioned first, doings of members of the Iris Society should not be entirely ignored! In Region 19 this year the item of greatest interest among said members is the marriage of our new Regional Vice-President, Mrs. Hemingway, and Kenneth Smith. In addition to our congratulations for them we congratulate ourselves—knowing that their gain, which is great, will spread out in no small measure to our gain also.

Region 21

MRS. RALPH E. RICKER, R.V.P., Iowa

Region 21 is a very large region geographically—from points in North Dakota to southern points in the region it is almost a thousand miles. Our climates differ but a splendid blooming season was recorded throughout most of the region.

A most interesting Regional Meeting was held at the Rome Hotel in Omaha, Nebraska last November. Seventy-five iris enthusiasts were in attendance, some coming from as far as central North Dakota and southern Iowa and southern Nebraska. Mrs. Charles Whiting was the speaker, explaining the change in districting which finally resulted in the forming of Region 21. She pointed out that originally Iowa and Nebraska had been a part of Region 9, but as interest grew, a new Region composed of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska was formed. This region was Region 18. In a short time Region 18 became one of the largest regions and it was necessary again to divide this region into two, regions 18 and 21. Region 21 is composed of Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota.

Mr. Norman Slothower, slide chairman, was in charge of the slide showing. We had the pleasure of visiting many of the members' gardens by slides. This slide tour ended with the showing of the slides of the prize winning blooms and arrangements of the Greater Omaha Iris Society's Show.

Plans were made for a Spring Regional Meeting to be held in Des Moines, Iowa but due to weather conditions it was necessary to cancel it. Plans are now in the making for a Fall and Spring Regional Meeting. Interest in iris in Region 21 is growing as is evidenced by the fact that the membership in the American Iris Society for 1951 shows an increase of forty-five members over 1950.

Region 21 has cause to be proud of its various iris groups. These groups are doing a great deal to create and to further interest in iris and this interest leads to AIS membership. I hope many more of these iris groups will be formed. A very active group from Omaha visited Sioux City gardens and the Whiting garden at Mapleton, Iowa, during blooming season. A quote from a report from G. E. Redman, president of the Omaha group—"At exactly 7:00 A.M. Omaha Iris fans left by chartered bus for Sioux City and Mapleton. The sun soon came out and with the exception of a shower scare at the Emery's the day was perfect. We arrived at the Sioux City Auditorium at nine o'clock and here we were met by Mr. and Mrs. Ricker, Miss Ethel Chesterman and Mrs. Albert Morgan. We went first to the Ricker home. Mrs. Ricker had a lot of good iris in bloom, including Kentucky Sunshine, Juliet, Woodland Beauty, Chantilly, Cahokia (a fine light blue), Katherine Fay and many others. Next we visited the garden of Geo. Dubes. Here we saw a light blue seedling which is tops. It is No. 7-12-2. From here we called on Chet Tompkins and saw a number of outstanding iris; One Clear Call—a white; Apricot Supreme; Suez; Color Carnival; Purple Flash; Columbia—a beautiful blue; No. 50-90, the red that the convention visitors liked; No. 50-119 a copper orange and Consolation, these to name a few.

Mapleton Visit

"At the Whiting's, in Mapleton, we forgot to inspect the Dykes Medals, but we didn't forget the iris. No sir. Here are a few fine iris we liked: No. 5030 a bright red seedling; Vatican Purple; Moonlight Sonata; May Time; Etude; Glad Tidings, my particular favorite; Arab Chief; Cloth of Gold; Garden Glory; Gold Sovereign; Technicolor; Blue Rhythm and Cherie.

"All too soon it was time to start back to Omaha. Everyone of us enjoyed the day, the iris and the hospitality of our Iowa neighbors. Many thanks for a wonderful day."

In 1952 I hope we will have more garden tours for they give one a chance to study the merits of the different varieties and there is a pleasure derived from pondering over the beauty of the new creations and the many, many iris that have given us and continue to give us so much beauty in our gardens. One of the real joys of iris time comes from visiting gardens other than your own.

The members of Region 21 are proud of our hybridizers and the very creditable work they are doing. Some of them who have been hybridizing for a number of years are Mrs. Charles Whiting, Henry Sass, Chet Tompkins, Mrs. Martin Johnson, W. S. Snyder, R. L. Lyell, George Dubes, and E. A. Emery.

Two Regional bulletins have been published in Region 21 and these bulletins have been sent to all members.

Varietal Comment

REGION 1

MRS. PRESTON E. COREY

Iris of recent and near introduction are always the points of keenest interest and among these Truly Yours stood out, a lovely and individual iris. Clear Sailing, of similar coloring, is utterly different; a gleaming iris. Tranquil Moon, also white and yellow, again similar and different; large, flaring; a beauty. Pinnacle, of course; you need them all.

Blues: Ponder, huge, fine color; Kezar Lake, many blooms out on fine stalks; Bay State, smooth texture, non-fading, branching; Jane Phillips, large, of Helen McGregor quality in deeper color; Alicia, a lovely light blue. Seafarer, still deeper color and Belle Meade, while a plicata is very blue. In the violet blues, Violet Harmony is impressive.

Pinks: Paradise Pink, fine color; Pink Sensation in lovely clumps at Stone's; Pink Formal, just opening; Love Story, of fine color and substance; Cloud Cap, tall, big, different. Pink Bountiful is such a pink orchid tone it rates here. Raspberry Ribbon, a lovely plicata and Maytime, the pink amoena are also close, both highly desirable.

Whites: New Snow sets a mark for the whites, but White Peacock of Mrs. Pattison's holds great promise. Helen McKenzie and the new Tranquility are fine. Jack Frost, clear white and horizontally flaring is entirely different; High Seas, big, tall and impressive. White Ruffles was lovely; it has a suggestion of soap bubble colors in it. Sarah Lee Shields is a worthy one from the Graves garden.

Browns: Argus Pheasant, "It isn't true" was one comment, but it is, and lovely indeed. Thotmes III, light toned and bright; Pretty Quadroon, light copper; both finely formed, each different. Gypsy, classic, comes in deeper coloring and Autumn Brown is a late one of gleaming golden tone. Bronze Brocade, a blended brown adds pleasing variety. Caldera, bright, reddish-bronze brown has excellent garden value.

Yellows: Colonel Primrose, a very flaring, ruffled self of pure, medium yellow; Prospector, a pure, light tone; Mayan Gold, a clear, light orange of fine growth; Yellow Diamond, silky, light self, well branched; CharMaize, large, very ruffled, chartreuse-maize color, different.

Black Satin was the "blackest" of the dark ones.

Interest in the results of difficult amoena breeding is high and Mr. Douglas's Criterion is excellent. A numbered seedling, though small, was of different coloring than any other; the standards a clear, medium

yellow, falls, solid red-purple velvet. If this grows up! Chiquita is a nice one.

Plicatas are growing lovelier and more intriguing. I mentioned Belle Meade; Honor Bright, a lovely big yellow one, stopped all visitors here; Gay Border is a prime favorite with its clear red and white effect; New Hope in blue on white, Captain from Castile and Gala Finale, both in reds and yellows; Mr. DeForest has "a corner" on plicatas. Bird Song (72 F-1) was a brilliant clump in the Lowry garden. Of purest white and red-violet, a true "border" type.

Reds: Lockwood; Quechee, the flaring, perky red; Pacemaker, Ebony Echo of fine form; Relentless, were some seen. The Mad Hatter was a most floriferous red on a first year plant and Garden Glory was magnificent at Stone's. These are only a few of the many fine newer varieties.

ADDITIONAL NOTES FROM REGION ONE

EMILY B. SHAW, Mass.

Since our blooming season is over I have for nearly two weeks been reading Bulletins (new and old, back to '42 and '43) and am full to bursting with iris information and comments.

I notice that even in the April 1951 Bulletin a writer asks for comments. I am not a hybridizer (haven't near room enough) but I have a lovely garden, not very big and have been growing iris for about 15 years. I consider myself very fortunate in living in Region 1 and being able to visit our lovely New England iris gardens.

This year I visited Mr. Stedman Buttrick's, Harold Knowlton's, Mr. Barker's and the Lowry gardens and some other smaller gardens. Because I am much interested in reactions to various iris, I am going to venture some of my likes and dislikes.

Of those I saw this year these are some which I liked very much. I am not a judge and, as one of the judges wrote "who cares if it is bunchy" or substance not too good or something else, if you like it you like it. In Mr. Buttrick's garden Cascade Splendor (fine big clump), New Snow, Zantha and Katherine Fay were outstanding. Radiation was much better than Spindrift. Stardom made a lovely clump and Seafarer (Buttrick) is a lovely new medium blue. Distance (Cook) I like while Azure Skies was lovely here and in my own garden. Blue Valley is grand in spite of the veining which I rather liked. Heritage seemed much better than Spindrift. Cahokia and Pierre Menard were very fine. Miss Faught's Illinois Sunshine was outstanding in this garden also. Juliet and Desert Song were performing well as was Jane Phillips, but I still think Helen McGregor and Cloud Castle are tops. Mrs. Whiting has a blue somewhat like them—Gallant Lady, which I have and think is lovely. Other favorites of mine are: Lynn Langford, Shishaldin, Truly Yours, Alline Rogers and Sonrisa.

Mrs. Lowry's new Autumn Brown is very fine and Southern Snow was outstanding in her garden. Mrs. Corey's Bay State showed great merit as did The Capitol, Blue Steel and Sylvia Murray. In Mr. Knowlton's garden his Kezar Lake seemed much like Blue Valley without the veins. Chivalry, Extravaganza, Bay State, a gorgeous clump of Ormohr, Schreiner's Raspberry Ribbon, Fay's Tranquility and Suzette immediately caught the eye.

In my own garden this year the old, old White Queen was a lovely clump, lovely as Pink Ruffles or Chantilly.

Azure Skies grows on one I think. It was blooming between Jake and White Queen and they made a grand trio. Ming Yellow I like better than Ola Kala even if it is a Dykes Winner. Golden Eagle did itself proud as did Misty Gold. Old Blue Peter, Indian Hills and Mrs. J. L. Gibson never fail me and are lovely foils for the light iris. Alpine Glow was fine and lasts a long time. Nightingale is fine.

It gives me courage when I read that some of the well known iris-arians say that they had "few blooms" or "not a good year" for so it was with me in 1951.

Angelus, Castalia, Amigo, Christabel, Louvois, Edgell, lovely small Gold Stream, Golden Treasure, Golden Hind, Imperial Blush, Morning Charm, Pink Opal, Red Bonnet, Sweet Alibi, Spring Idyll, Theodolinda have done well for me through the years. They might give heart to a beginner.

I used to have Ballerine and Sov. de Letitia Michaud and wish I had them now. They never failed to give good bloom.

REGION 3

Our iris season opened here in Altoona on May 23, amidst a down-pour of rain. Seems to me the two usually go hand in hand. Due to illness my husband and I were unable to attend the Garden Tour and get together in Region Three on May 26. However, we did arrive at Mr. Lyster's in Clifton Heights on May 30. He took us to all the gardens the group had visited the previous Saturday. We thoroughly enjoyed every minute we spent looking at the beautiful iris and it was indeed a pleasure to meet Mr. Palmer and Dr. Dolman. We are certainly grateful to Mr. Lyster for making our visit such a pleasant one.

From Clifton Heights we journeyed to the Cherry Hill Iris Gardens at Pleasant Valley, Pa. Here Mr. Holton, the owner, has transformed a ramshackle house into a thing of beauty, and the farm into a gorgeous iris garden. Some of the newer iris on display were Melody Lane, Pink Sensation, Pink Formal, Pinnacle, Cape Bon, Argus Pheasant and Spanish Peaks, all in a perfectly beautiful setting and so well grown. Of course he had plenty of the older varieties arranged so that the visitor and prospective buyer could pick and choose to his heart's

content. There was a constant stream of people coming and going all the time, which proved the popularity of both Mr. Holton and his lovely garden.

We then traveled on through the Poconos and finally came to a garden near Milton, Pa., owned by Mr. Charles W. Voris. Here again we saw many more magnificent iris—Chamois, Velvet Dusk (very dark black violet with large flaring blooms), Master Charles, Sylvia Murray, gay Color Carnival, Pretty Quadroon, Golden Russet (perfectly huge) and Orelia (the brightest red one could possibly imagine, very lovely and quite outstanding). Mr. Voris is doing quite a bit of crossing, too bad he is off the beaten track as he has some fine things under number. The ones he called to our attention were VBC 4820, a broader and more ruffled Bryce Canyon, and LSGE 483, a much deeper Gilt Edge, with a wider band of gilt around the broad falls. Both were lovely. Mr. Voris grows his iris in rows in large fields, so a pair of old shoes is a MUST. I can tell you we left there quite tired but very happy with all we had seen.

Here at home Mrs. Young has a lovely garden and grows quite a few of the newer iris. Paradise Pink is her pride and joy. No wonder—it was a beautiful shell pink with a tangerine beard, very good substance and of good height. She also has a great many of Don Waters' seedlings and some of her own. Mrs. Dolheimer too had an outstanding garden. When I was there she had a huge clump of Great Lakes that was putting on a fine show. It is truly a wonderful flower. As to our own garden, we have IRIS. Where we live there is a great deal of sulphur in the air and it seems nothing will grow but iris and how they do grow! My husband has made four new beds and we hope in '52 that our iris friends will be able to see Radiation, Pink Sensation, Melody Lane, Color Carnival, Velvet Dusk, Cape Bon, Blue Valley, Rose Splendor, Lynn Langford, Twilight Sky, New Horizon, Amandine and many others. Best wishes to all AIS members.—MRS. WALLACE J. WHITE, Altoona, Penna.

REGION 6

DON WATERS, Ohio

The iris season in Region 6 could be considered one of the best due principally to a steady cold winter. Snow covered the ground from November to March, thus preventing varieties inclined to early growth from getting a premature start.

In the white varieties New Snow, Spanish Peaks, Lady Boscawen, Vigil, Katherine Fay and The Capitol all performed well. I personally like a pure white iris and the less yellow in the throat, the more attractive it is to me. Therefore, the color of Spanish Peaks suited me very much but New Snow's form and general characteristics were

superior. In my garden Katherine Fay responds only when well fed.

In the creams Tranquil Moon, Star Shine, Desert Song, Amandine and Truly Yours were outstanding wherever seen. Each of these iris is entirely different and yet beautiful in its own right. Star Shine has such a regal shape and unusual coloring; Amandine with its lemon cream coloring has excellent growing qualities; Truly Yours is a most unusual iris; Tranquil Moon is so refreshingly beautiful and Desert Song is gorgeous when it first opens but changes rather rapidly to a duller but not unattractive ivory.

Many beautiful blue iris were blooming this season and those which performed particularly well were Cahokia, Distance, Blue Valley, Keene Valley, Pierre Menard, Chivalry, Helen McGregor, Lake Shannon, Blue Rhythm and Blue Blazes. In my opinion Cahokia was the bluest. Blue Valley, from a standpoint of color, is preferable to its offspring Keene Valley. However, the latter grows luxuriantly and the flower has a very stylish appearance. I like the color of Lake Shannon particularly and while the lines detract somewhat, it makes a wonderful garden iris. Pierre Menard and Chivalry are in the same color range and it would be difficult to choose between them. Distance, the older standby, is still one of the best blues and I would not be without it. Helen McGregor is a fine iris here but the hot sun does things to its color. Blue Blazes is a fine big bold iris with unusual width of petals. Reports from some of the newer blues, particularly McKee's Ponder, indicate an advancement in color. I did not care for Jane Phillips blooming on a first year plant.

In the orchid group there are four which I particularly like—Dreamcastle, Pink Bountiful, Manyusya and Fantasy. All were good this season. Dreamcastle is a beautiful iris, wide in its parts and makes a grand show in a clump. Pink Bountiful is a bit pinker and has a nice wide flower. Manyusya is a magnificent performer and delightfully handsome. Red bearded Fantasy is very lovely.

The pinks are becoming more bewildering and yet more beautiful as they progress, however the intensity of color differs little in those which I have seen. Paradise Pink, a splendid performer, is the pinkest. It grows well, makes a rapid increase and its color is not harmed by strong sunlight. Pink Formal is just a trifle lighter and is a larger flower than the former. Cherie, Pink Salmon and Pink Sensation all gave fine performances. Cherie has a most appealing shape and style. Floradora is very pink but the lines in the haft detract somewhat from its lovely coloring. Cloud Cap is a very large and beautifully formed iris. It is a different pink—sort of grayish—difficult to describe but very good. Hit Parade is a splendid grower and holds its color well. Mary Randall is a very beautiful iris and very pink with a rosy shading throughout—a fine iris indeed.



The star performer in your editor's garden in 1951 was Paradise Pink introduced by Longfield in 1950. In depth of coloring, substance, size and beauty this iris is unsurpassed in the field of tangerine bearded pinks. Paradise Pink has excellent growth habits and increases rapidly. Its medium height combined with its branch placement gives a fine clump effect.

—photo by Tomlin

Gold Sovereign was the deepest and richest yellow observed in the 1951 season. It is not only a deep, orangy yellow but has a brilliancy about it which is most attractive even though it is not a large iris. Ola Kala performed well and this was the only season in three in which it did not need staking. Cloth of Gold is always a good performer. Mattie Gates is a brilliant lemon and white spangled variety and especially brilliant when planted aside Master Charles or any of the dark iris. Orange Gem, a fine addition to this group, is an orange yellow with excellent form.

Pinnacle attracted all visitors to it promptly. It is a beautiful iris and its performance here justifies its introduction. Fair Day, a most appealing new yellow bitone, is a graceful big iris in an unusual color range and an excellent performer. Helen Collingwood, a brilliant neglecta, adds greatly to the garden picture; however on a first year plant the flowers were rather bunched and it is hoped that it will do better in this respect in another year. Three Cheers is an iris in the same color range but more blue and less violet than the former.

In the tans and coppers which gave a good performance were Argus Pheasant, Thotmes III, Pretty Quadroon, General Patton, Rainbow Room, Jericho, Juliet and Cascade Splendor. Rainbow Room is a most colorful blend, large and handsomely ruffled. General Patton has the deepest color, adding brilliancy to this group, while Argus Pheasant is fine in both color and form. Cascade Splendor, consistently a fine performer, is most satisfying with its pinkish tan and flaring falls. Juliet, planted aside of Vice Regal, put on a fine display. Jericho, an introduction of Mr. McKee's, is grand with its gold and henna color in a large flower. Rocket made a delightful clump in the garden.

In the blacks Paul Cook's Sable Night is simply stunning. It is in the range of the red blacks rather than the blue blacks. Its beautifully flaring falls and fine domed standards make it a very desirable iris. Black Banner, Black Ruby, Black Forest, Indiana Night, Master Charles and Vice Regal all put on a fine show in my garden. Vice Regal was especially fine with eight bloom stalks on a two year old plant, standing about 40 inches high in a truly regal manner. Sable still holds its own in the dark range, a magnificent iris which, in my opinion, was overlooked in the naming of the Dykes when it was eligible.

We do not seem to be getting a true red as yet but the newer varieties are approaching it more closely. Relentless, Pacemaker and Color Sergeant are very good varieties in this class as well as Sunset Blaze, Solid Mahogany, Garden Glory and others. All are smooth with no detracting lines. Relentless, a smooth deep red—perhaps the reddest; Pacemaker, very nice, wide in its parts, and smooth; Color Sergeant, red and ruffled, very good. Big Time is a fine big bold red iris and was taller than

most of the newer reds. I did not get to see a fresh flower on it but it looked to have been very red. Technicolor was not as red as I had expected.

Wickersham's #150 is a beautiful ivory shade in a fine large flaring flower. The standards are ruffled and closed and the falls flare beautifully with the same ruffling throughout the flower. It is wide in the haft and a clean color. It will make the other cream or ivory varieties get up and hustle.

At Paul Cook's there were many fine seedlings as usual. One of the most outstanding was #12447, a deep pansy violet according to the color chart, with a very wide white beard. It is brilliant and large and a color which is badly needed in the garden. #15748 seemed to be the best of his light blues. It is very smooth, bluer than Distance and undoubtedly a seedling from it as its shape was similar. In his 1951 seedlings were many black iris so to speak. #5151 was the blackest with flaring falls and no lines in the haft. The falls were definitely black and the standards just a shade lighter. #1249 was one of the most brilliant yellows—not a deep yellow but outstanding because of its brilliancy. It was beautifully ruffled with nice wide falls and standards.

Mr. Cook's two introductions, Morning Bright and Pretender, are very outstanding iris. Morning Bright is stunning, described as what one might term a perfect Marquita with full broad ivory standards and beautifully flaring falls of watermelon coloring. Pretender has lemon standards with dark purple falls. It is very fine in every respect.

The most unusual seedling seen this season was IMBRI 151, a large flaring iris with light blue standards and pure white falls—even the beard was white. Just imagine its beauty! It measured 6½ inches across and was blooming on strong 38 inch stems. Mr. Cook has several with white standards and light blue falls. The best was #3550. I am sure we shall hear from this later. #7651 has chartreuse standards and style arms with flaring purple falls. It is very unusual and a clean break.

Mr. Lapham has some stunning things in pink and red shades. In reds I thought his B-7 very promising, growing on tall strong stems with wide large flowers of tomato red coloring; B-2 also a large red iris with a lighter band around the ruffled falls, was very attractive. C-B-9 was the reddest but did not grow as lofty as the former two. His B-19, a copper blend, was fine—very bright with excellent style and carrying power. In the pinks his newly introduced Lottie Lembrich has fine carriage. It is most unusual, having pink standards and very wide lilac falls with a red beard. C-B-2 has buff pink standards with red lilac falls, making an unusual and stunning color combination. C-45, a large deep tourmaline pink with a red beard, drew one's

attention from across the garden. Mr. Lapham's C-16 is being introduced and is a greatly improved Bonny, very smooth on 40 inch stems.

IRISES SEEN IN NASHVILLE

J. E. WILLS, Tennessee

PEG DABAGH (Craig)

One of the best of the oncocyclus hybrids. It is deeper in color and richer than most, coming close to being a dark blue Mohr type. It seems to grow and increase well in this climate.

HEIGHO (Craig)

Another hybrid which is also very impressive and even more vigorous—a big spectacular flower which more nearly resembles Morning Blue or Blue Elegance than Peg Debagh.

COLOR SERGEANT (H. F. Hall)

The color of this iris is nice but it is no more red than a number of others. What does make it distinctive is its size, height, and particularly its vigor of growth. If you have complained because reds did not thrive or grow up you will find this an exception if its behavior in Nashville is typical.

MIOGEM (McKee)

A good "smoky". Wine and brown-red and gray-purple intermingled with a blue blaze on the fall. It does not have a bright color but it is still interesting. It is an excellent grower and doer with fine branching.

THE CAPITOL (Norton)

Well deserves the favor it has gained rather slowly and the A. M. it got this year. So many of the new whites are cold whites, or pure whites, or blue whites that a warm white with a golden heart like this stands out.

SYLVIA MURRAY (Norton)

Still one of the best of the very light blues. The fashion now is all for ruffled irises and Sylvia Murray is tailored. I think we still need both types, and Sylvia has other good qualities to go with her trim form such as substance, branching, and dependability, and a color that does not fade in Nashville.

PINK CAMEO (Fay)

One of the best, perhaps the best, of the medium priced shell pinks. It is a wonderful doer and the color is still good in a class that is rapidly becoming crowded.

BLUE BLAZES (Welch)

A big medium blue that is impressive because of its size, but it somehow seems a little coarse. It has a yellow beard and a white area around the haft. The color is nice but somehow it just misses distinction.

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE (DeForest)

One of the best of the new yellow plicatas. The color combination is pleasing, warm yellow and brown, and it is arranged in an orderly way. Form and substance are good.

DRUM MAJOR (Douglas)

This iris is finally winning the recognition it deserves. It is a big bright rose-red which really grows well. It has also proved to be a good parent. It has very nice form and branching.

LEADING LADY (Lyell)

There are many yellow reverse bicolors combining yellow standards and white falls with a gold edge. Some of them lack substance or form. This one doesn't. It shows off its glittering white and gold in its wide flaring falls and domed standards.

CLEAR SAILING (DeForest)

This iris is soft and refined rather than bright. Light yellow, almost cream, and deeper yellow are combined in a very lovely flower. Exceptionally clean and clear.

CHALLENGE (Stevens)

This big rose will attract the attention of visitors because of its great size combined with rather vivid color. It is somewhat floppy, however, and does not grow tall enough for the big flowers.

HOOSIER SUNRISE (Lapham)

This is an old iris now but I still like it. For years I have wondered why it has not attracted more attention. It is not sensational in its color, a pink or rose blend combined with gold. The color combination is pleasing, however; form, substance, and branching are all good, and it performs well every year.

PATHFINDER (Whiting)

A big, very wide-hafted pink blend which reminds one of its parent Angelus in its substance and form. It is a little too much on the lavender side to suit me but it is an impressive flower.

CAHOKIA (Faught)

This light blue seems to be a variable performer. Sometimes it is outstanding in other places or other seasons not particularly distinguished. It is not reliably hardy in Nashville. Unquestionably it is a good parent.

PINNACLE (Stevens)

This is undoubtedly the first good iris of a new color pattern, but it gives one the impression of approach rather than completion. It is more pleasing at a little distance than it is close up. While there could be more contrast between the white standards and the pale yellow falls, this is not its main fault. There are rather heavy white venations on the haft which detract considerably from it upon close inspection. Form and substance are good and it has a nice garden effect.

CALIFORNIA ROSE (Salbach)

Not much is being done now toward good new pink or rose blends. While it is by no means a great iris, this is one of the better new ones. It has nice color and seems to grow well. The big flowers may be a little lacking in substance which makes them seem a little floppy at times.

REGION 11

H. M. METCALF, Montana

Our iris season was two weeks later than in Coeur d'Alene, and was marred by one bad storm which beat up the blossoms considerably. Blue Rhythm was outstanding in its ability to take the weather. Gala Finale, in bloom about the same time, did not stand the weather as well. Argus Pheasant was excellent. Ebony Isle was rather short but floriferous. Envoy and Orelia were very attractive. Clear Sailing and Rodeo did not bloom for us this year. Old standbys, such as Sable, The Red Douglas, Great Lakes, Buffawn, Jake, Prairie Sunset, Elmohr and City of Lincoln continued as dependable varieties. These older varieties are more widely grown here than are the newer ones, perhaps because they are cheaper. Lady Mohr was interesting here, but perhaps not too appealing a color combination.

I have not seen as effective a display garden for iris in my travels through the northwest as the Nelson garden in Coeur d'Alene. It is effectively landscaped to display iris, hems and poppies to best advantage. From my visit I particularly recall as effective and desirable such varieties as Cahokia, for its good form and attractive color, Danube Wave, Illinois Sunshine, Lake Breeze, Orangeman, Indiana Night, Pinnacle, Pretty Quadroon, Staten Island and Truly Yours. I thought that perhaps Staten Island represented the biggest improvement over any old standard variety that I saw.

MRS. RALPH NELSON, Idaho

In my own garden in Coeur d'Alene, in north Idaho, 32 miles east of Spokane, we had a mild winter with little snow. I used for the first time an iris covering of pine needles which I consider very fine. They

are easy to put on and take off and do not pack, and moreover you can popularize yourself with your neighbors by taking his pine needles off his lawn. I have heard also that they add brilliance to the color of the iris. A very severe freeze in April did a great deal of damage to iris all over the northwest, but fortunately my bloom turned out as fine as ever. I lost only one iris out of 600 varieties, and practically every newly planted variety bloomed. The weather during blooming season was perfect and I had a great many visitors. What more could an iris lover want?

Of my new iris Truly Yours was the most outstanding. It seemed to capture every one. Other new ones that delighted me most were Port Wine, Rich Raiment, Bronze Brocade, Ruth, Chinook Pass, Prospector, Argus Pheasant, Pinnacle, Color Carnival, Pink Formal, Rose Ames, and Leading Lady.

Mrs. W. C. Fox of Nampa, reporting on her section of south Idaho, wrote: "The first blooms showed up in Mrs. James Maher's garden. There Mrs. Tharp's Silver Flute was new and especially pleasing—a silvery, medium blue, large and tall with good shape and branching.

"In Miss Blakeslee's garden Spanish Peaks and Blue Valley defied description. The marvelous size and color of these fine iris, Miss Blakeslee partly attributed to the fact that a quantity of elm leaves had been spaded into the soil the year before. Mrs. Suiter's garden at Caldwell had considerable bloomstalk damage because of last winter's devastating weather. However there was some lovely bloom and the most outstanding iris for me was Sun Lakes, that she introduced last spring. It is a bright medium blue, fine in every way, the product of a cross between her own Blue Champagne and Sylvia Murray. Of the many new and choice varieties of iris growing in your garden in Coeur d'Alene, the following appealed to me very much:

Truly Yours, very ruffled, rich golden yellow and white combination. Prospector, brilliant gold with ivory patch on the haft and wide flaring falls.

Pinnacle, brilliant white standards, primrose yellow falls, lovely in a clump.

Cahokia, large, delicate blue, slightly deeper veining, green tinted mid-rib, well formed flower—a beauty.

Mattie Gates, bright lemon yellow and white with dividing lines cleanly etched.

General Patton, deep, sparkling, red copper.

"Of the older varieties that continue to appeal, not only because of their beauty, but usefulness as well, two always stand out clearly—Master Charles, the brilliant mulberry purple, floriferous and hardy. Tiffanja, trim yellow and white plicata, non-fading, hardy and the most floriferous."

COMMENTS FROM REGION 12

MR. M. D. NAYLOR, Utah

Now for a few comments on varieties. First, the ten best growers in my garden (and this is an important list for the newcomer) are: Blue Rhythm, Golden Russet, Blue Valley, Helen McGregor, Amandine, Sunset Blaze, Cascade Splendor, Chivalry, Zantha and Golden Ruffles. No prima donnas in that list. And to mention a few new things that were impressive this year:

TRULY YOURS. I believe this will be one of the really great stars of the future. It is an iris for the masses.

HELEN MCKENZIE. Very white indeed but out here this one is going to need a year to establish. It bloomed small on a first year plant.

PROSPECTOR. From Prince of Orange comes this new pattern which for some reason reminds me of Mattie Gates, one of my all time favorites, although there is really not much similarity.

BRIGHT SONG. Came to me very poorly recommended but as it grows here it was a lovely orchid pink flower with great color value.

STARSHINE. This was a fine thing in Fisher Harris' garden but with me it sulked a bit and will need another year's growth.

THOTMES III. I would grow this iris if only for the name. The old Pharaohs have always intrigued me no end. My son did not think the color of this very exceptional, but every visitor who came into my garden this year did. It must therefore have an appeal that we didn't quite catch.

HALL'S 48-33. A rose colored seedling that for color is a crowd stopper. I must write to David Hall for its parentage as I seem to never have had it; whatever he used was the right combination. It was the finest thing in my garden this year.

CHERIE. I shall close my report with this one. No garden is very happy without Cherie. How very fitting to a great man's work that it should win the Dykes Medal. Those of us who have had the rare privilege of visiting with David and his lovely wife know only too well why such signal success has come to them. There is serenity and humility surrounding these two gentle souls which marks them as belonging to the nobility of gardening folks. May we have them with us for many years to come.

VARIETAL COMMENTS FROM REGION 13

MRS. ALBERT HASSE, Wash.

Cloud Cap is the largest pink that I have yet seen. It seemed to be a very good doer for the originator. I saw it growing at Beaverton and it was much larger than the other pinks growing nearby. My notes say Captain from Castile was very bright. Caroline Jane, a blue and white plicata, was very good. Colonel Primrose gets four stars, but

the yellows with ruffling are my downfall. Frances Kent was very unusual; Java Jewel nice. Marsala is an iris with excellent garden value. A seedling, DeF. #44-49 was a ruffled medium violet blue which he may introduce. DeF. #14-48, almost a self, violet with a blue blaze, was ruffled, tall, and with good branching. DeF. #50-46 was a large dark purple with very wide falls that were especially interesting and had five blossoms on one stem, with close branching. DeF. #51-9 had soft yellow falls, with white standards, good branching, which I liked better than Pinnacle. DeF. #51-13 was a soft yellow, unique because of the white signal patch with yellow beard. Mr. DeForest called it a weak plicata. It had horizontal falls, good branching, standards were tightly domed and there was a gold glitter on the falls. Gay Border is a good garden iris. Of course, Mr. DeForest has a number of pink seedlings that appear to have a future.

At the Cooley's I saw Melody Lane, which is on the peachy side, with crinkled edges and very smooth. #40, a pink seedling slated for 1952 introduction, was a must have as seen that day. It is a large flower with crinkled edges, perfect form, a self with a yellow influence on the haft, but no haft markings. It is a little more peach than Vanity Fair and has better substance. Palomina, a 1952 introduction, is a peachy pink with pink infusion through the middle of the standards. It has creamy white falls with buff haft markings and edging around falls the same. It had good branching. Heritage was a small pink with crinkled edges, with open standards. Cordovan, everywhere I saw it, was very good with its large broad falls. Sky Ranger is a large ruffled violet blue, very good and a must have, my notes say.

Rosabella has good garden value, with flaring form, a rose-red self with a copper glow on the haft and a blue line on the midrib. Fuchia is a striking color, well named, with brown haft markings. Opal Cloud was a large flower. Prospector is a lively yellow with closed standards and white through the middle of the standards. Russet Wings is an iris I especially liked this year wherever I saw it. Spanish Fandango is an improved Mexico with good flaring form, a live color and excellent branching, well named. Vanity Fair is a shade pinker than Ballerina, with more yellow influence on the haft, good substance, crinkled edge on both falls and standards, standards slightly open, good form, pinker than #40. Lovelight has creamy buff shadings with crinkled edges, strong haft markings, nicely rounded form, but the color is not striking. It is an iris that would need to grow on one, I believe.

At Dr. Kleinsorge's garden we saw #415 B, a well shaped yellow out of Solid Gold, 5th in that line. He believes he now has the yellow chromosomes or genes or whatever they call them corralled so that now he can cross any of that line and get nothing but yellow.

Out in the Cooley's garden we saw #17, a mauve with large wide falls and standards; #34, a tall well-branched apricot, good; #49-03, lavender with tangerine beard. The color was lovely and we all liked it. #36 was a buff, very ruffled but closely branched; #19 had a geranium beard on a pinkish apricot. Heather Rose I liked very much. Jane Phillips is larger than Helen McGregor and was very good. Twilight Sky evidently did not like the winter—we saw no bloom anywhere on it. Radiation I liked very much. Solid Gold is a bright yellow with good form. Summit has more of a definite contrast than Pinnacle but we felt it wasn't as good. A yellow seedling F206-1 from Jasmine-Goldbeater may be introduced. G 359, an apricot from Pink Cameo x Desert Song was very nice, with good form. There was a Mattie Gates x Pink Cameo seedling that was really pink, but I am not positive of the number. Vernal Peace from Mrs. Stevens, was a cool yellow with good substance that may be introduced next year. #1 26-2 was a large orchid pink with broad falls that I especially liked. Gold Sovereign was a brassy gold. Cahokia is an excellent blue. Raspberry Ribbon was a nice plicata, aptly named.

At Mr. Linse's we were impressed with Spellbound and Whispers, two of his new introductions. Spellbound is a large iris with horizontal falls, excellent form and with a "come hither" brilliancy of color. The catalog description is very apt. Whispers may be termed a reverse Pinnacle. It is evidently a very good doer. Ripples, a lavender with some yellow, was a very good flower, but needs to be planted with the light yellows to bring out all its good features. One stalk of it that we took home stayed in bloom for days!

At Iris Test Gardens, I noticed Bright Song, a beautiful color, but it seemed thin. Chinook Pass was doing all right by itself on a strong sturdy stalk. It is a lovely shade of light blue. Blue Angel Wing was nice with a soft blue coloring and blue beard. Top Flight was tops with me, a creamy yellow with lots of crinkling and ruffling. Luke Norton, on the same type with lots of crinkling too, reminded me of Midwest Gem and Easter Bonnet. Cliffdel, of the same series, was really a beauty and defies description. Mr. Maxwell said he wouldn't attempt to describe it, so here is Mrs. Carlson's description: "Rose and lilac with bronzed edge and very ruffled." We saw a great many of older irises that have all been described before. In this report, I am trying to keep it to the new rhizomes as much as possible.

At Mr. Innes' garden, we saw lots of seedlings from his Ruth. One that was very nice was a cross of Ruth x Blue Rhythm and tentatively nicknamed Lemon Chiffon which describes it perfectly. It is a soft, creamy yellow with the long falls of Blue Rhythm. Ruth was well liked by a great many of us this year.

In our own local gardens this year, Argus Pheasant was very bright

with its copper overlay and good branching, as seen at Schmelzer's Garden. Pretty Pansy is on the order of Moonlight Sea. Banded Beauty was small on a one year plant but is a nice plicata.

NEW VARIETIES IN REGION 19

CATHERINE HEMINGWAY SMITH, New York

Mr. Cassebeer has a very promising new white seedling #501 (Spanish Peaks x White Sprite) ruffled, flaring and pure white, beard and all. From Spanish Peaks x White Parchment he got a lovely tall light powder blue #499. The Cassebeer garden contains an excellent collection of fine modern iris from many hybridizers.

Mr. H. F. Hall's Indian Red gives a bright light red effect in the garden; Color Sergeant glows, it has a smooth velvet texture, is ruby red with ruffled rose-red edge on falls. A new red seedling of Mr. H. F. Hall's is R-164 in two tones of red (that is silk and velvet) ruffled with semiflaring falls is very beautiful, and I believe it is very close to spectrum red; a shade or two darker, perhaps. Tall stalks are another good characteristic of Mr. Hall's reds, the stems of R-164 are 36 inches.

I quote from the article written by John Dolman, published in October Bulletin 119: "—from a fortunate cross of Keene Valley x Jane Phillips, Mr. Smith had the finest batch of blue seedlings I have ever seen, ranging from the deep medium blue to blue white." Selecting the best of these seedlings, this spring, for naming and introduction was one of Kenneth's most important, exacting and pleasant garden chores. He studied and compared them in wind, rain, mist and sun then decided to name three. #50-12 has been named Serene Valley, it is a very large, beautifully formed and ruffled light blue iris (lighter than Keene Valley) the falls are flaring, the standards are semiconical thus enabling them to shed rain and the substance is so fine that at Staten Island, the flowers remain open five days. The plant is vigorous, stalks 41 inches with four branches. The darkest of the three named this spring is Harriette Halloway, #50-44, larger and darker than Keene Valley, a very ruffled deep medium blue flower on a well branched sturdy 36 inch stalk. All of these new blues are early blooming and the bloom continues through midseason, the plants are strong, and the color smooth with no striation or reticulation.

Golden Hawk put on a magnificent show; it is a large flaring flower of sparkling smooth deep yellow and seems to be gold-plated at the haft which has no veins. Its stalk is 38 inches tall with five branches, the lowest stalk rebranches; one stalk produces seventeen flowers! Golden Days is a clear bright yellow iris of great beauty, medium in height, the falls broadly flaring and very broad at the haft, wonderful substance and more ruffles than any other iris I've ever seen.

Staten Island inspires exclamations of delight; its sharply contrasting yellow and red, fine stalk and long blooming season have earned it an enviable place among variegatas.

If a beauty spot in one's garden is overlooked by visitors plant Helen Collingwood nearby; its rich red-purple velvet falls and silky hyacinth-white standards make such a brilliant display that all eyes are compelled to enjoy its loveliness. This iris increases with amazing rapidity; I saw in Mrs. Donohoe's garden at Clinton, New Jersey, in May a single rhizome with a good flower stalk and five increases. Kenneth has another colorful very late blooming neglecta, #8-33 which he has named Mardi Gras. The pod parent of these two neglectas was Extravaganza but each had different pollen parents; Helen Collingwood's pollen parent was Louise Blake, Mardi Gras' pollen parent was a Smith seedling, #5-30, which was Mme. Maurice Lassaily x Ilse Louise.

Notable among Kenneth Smith's bewildering array of fine seedlings blooming for the first time were: #51-11 a tangerine bearded, very large ruffled pink, standards flamingo pink, falls orchid pink, simply luscious; 51-12 child of Keene Valley x Pierre Menard, pure light blue of flaring form, brush stroked with darker blue along the midribs of standards and falls, so the flower appears to have been shaded by a gifted water-colorist; #51-115 is something to dream about, the palest imaginable lemon yellow suffused green; Lady Mohr was its pod parent and from her this seedling has inherited its unusually large flower.

(Editor's Note: Since the receipt of the above Varietal Comments and Report, word has come to the Bulletin that Catherine Hemingway is now Catherine Hemingway Smith. Felicitations are in order. We join with their host of other friends in wishing them happiness and prosperity.)

REGION 21

MRS. RALPH RICKER, Iowa.

In the region we have a group of intensely interested members who are growers of good iris and who are adding new and outstanding iris to their planting. Many of their collections are among the finest to be found anywhere. Some of the outstanding varieties which performed well in the region were:

GOLD SOVEREIGN—a very outstanding iris; it is neither large nor tall, about thirty inches; a vivid orange self; an iris that commands attention in the garden.

Catherine Hemingway lends a helping hand to her future husband by tidying up the iris beds.





KWILSENA—a brilliant red-brown self with self colored beard. The splendid formed flowers are large and well placed on nicely branched stalks.

NORTHWESTERN—a rich purple self; blue beard, fine branching; excellent form. A very fine iris.

LEADING LADY—a grand iris; rich cream standards and falls edged with gold. The large flowers are broad and ruffled and of heavy texture.

HONOR BRIGHT—rightly named. A very bright plicata and a striking one; chrome yellow with orange and brown markings; white patch on falls; the whole flower has a bright orange glow; exceptionally fine form and substance; stalks well branched.

HELEN MCKENZIE—a pure white; white beard; no haft veinations.

BLUE RHYTHM—a very free bloomer; blooms over a long period; it is a soft cornflower blue with a silvery sheen; the flowers are large with broad standards and semiflaring falls.

APRICOT SUPREME—a very lovely color; the large well formed flowers are a rich apricot pink, the beard is deep pink. Good substance; sturdy stalk and well branched.

LINDORA—standards deep orange yellow; falls pure white with a border of the same color as the standards; flowers are large, well formed and of heavy substance.

RUMBA ROSE—a rosy-red amoena; standards soft pinkish lavender; falls bright rose-red; the flowers medium size, good substance; branching good.

CHIQUITA—a neglecta-amoena type; standards pale blue lavender; falls deep velvety blue purple, edged with the color of the standards; excellent form, texture and substance.

ROSE OF HEAVEN—deep old rose with a copper sheen; blue blaze on falls.

ORIENTAL BAZAAR—an unusual blending of orange, buff and metallic lavender; a lovely clump in the garden.

ON GUARD—a fine soft yellow with a slight infusion of gold at the haft; standards very firm and the falls are semiflaring; excellent texture. This iris blooms over a long period; does not fade or lose its substance under the most trying weather conditions.

ORANGE GEM—a brilliant orange yellow self; flowers well spaced on sturdy stalks.

COHOKIA—a most outstanding clear light blue; the well formed flowers are of heavy substance and well placed on well branched stalks.

SNOW FLURRY—a very reliable iris and one which blooms over a long period. This ruffled white has a faint cast of blue.

LADDIE—a blue with a silver sheen; standards are domed and ruffled; falls slightly ruffled and flaring; a fine blue.

SABLE—one of the older black purples but still one of the best.

MISTLETOE—an outstanding iris; a cream and white combination with a flush of light creamy tan at the haft; flowers crisp and ruffled; good substance; does not mind weather conditions.

FRANK DRAKE—a bicolor; the light yellow standards are domed, pure white falls are flaring; a faint overlay of chartreuse surrounds the beard of the same color.

RIO VALLEY—a light golden tobacco brown, almost a self except for a hint of rose around the blue signal patch; an overlay of gold gives the flower a sparkling gold iridescence.

TECHNICOLOR—a brilliant ruby red self. A grand addition to the garden.

ALLINE ROGERS—a rich blend of dusty rose and pink with an undertone of gold.

AMAZON—a magnificent iris of light golden tan; standards firm; falls flaring; substance and branching good.

AMANDINE—the large flowers are pale cream lightly flushed with lemon yellow; the blooms are of splendid form and substance.

INSIGNIA—a most interesting cream and white plicata; the smoothly textured flowers are evenly spaced on well branched stalks.

ARABIAN NIGHTS—an attractive blend of bright peach, yellow, pink and rich copper; good form; good grower.

MORNING—an unusual yet pleasing color combination; white standards edged with wide bands of cream; flaring falls and pale blue. Good.

GRATITUDE—mulberry-plum blend with an overlay of blue on the falls; good form, substance and branching.

HELEN COLLINGWOOD—a very fine but different neglecta; standards light lavender; falls brilliant violet purple.

SOLVEG—a most desirable iris; it is a lovely cream yellow; both standards and falls have an edge of lemon. A very fine addition to a garden.

GARDEN GLORY—this deep wine red self with a glossy finish has form, grace and charm.

FROST GLINT—a stately blue white; the flowers are large with closely domed, ruffled standards, and flaring ruffled falls.

LOVE STORY—an exceptionally fine iris; a very smooth rich flamingo pink with a bright tangerine beard. Right at the top of its class.

OLA KALA—this is one of the best of the deep yellows. Holds up well under adverse weather conditions.

PIERRE MENARD—a magnificent addition to the medium blue class; excellent form and substance.

JAKE—a wonderful glistening white of heavy substance.

EBONY ECHO—a rich deep ermine with a satiny finish; the flowers are large and have very broad ruffled standards and horizontal falls.

CLOTH OF GOLD—a bright deep yellow self; one with many good qualities, fine flaring form, heavy substance, excellent branching and a most reliable bloomer.

CHIVALRY—a beautiful ruffled medium blue, fine in every way; the well branched stalk carries many flowers. A very fine real blue of great garden value.

LAUREL HILL—an interesting Mohr hybrid; the standards and falls are broad; color rosy-red lavender slightly veined deeper red.

COURTESY—a splendid white with a flush of blue at the throat; heavy blue beard.

GOLDEN MOON—a most outstanding yellow; good form and substance.

SPRING MOON—an attractive primrose yellow; the flowers are large, wide petaled and of heavy substance.

LADY ALBRIGHT—a very colorful blend; standards are rich tobacco gold and falls are rosy violet flushed blue; the haft a smooth tobacco gold and an edging of the same color extends completely around the falls.

ASOLA of Nepal—chartreuse and cream, flecked and dashed with magenta-red and brown; style and growth similar to Lady Mohr.

TWILIGHT SKIES—a fine new pink; the tailored flowers are medium size and of flaring form; no haft markings; the red beard is in sharp contrast to the clear pink of the flowers.

VISTA VERONICA—an orchid blue self; the flower has a crepe-like finish that is derived from the color makeup of tiny veins and netting of orchid blue on a lighter ground. An unusual iris.

PURPLE FLASH—a striking and brilliant iris; it is a deep red purple self; the tailored flowers are of heavy substance and a smooth finish.

CHERIE—a beautiful pink, fine in every way; deserves all the honors it has received.

HIGH COMMENDATION AWARDS

Descriptions and Comments by Accredited Judges

On the awards ballots for 1951 the accredited judges were asked to write descriptions and comments on the irises which they recommended for the award of High Commendation. The following descriptions of the iris which received this award are taken from these notes. The state in parenthesis following each note indicates where the judge lives who made that comment.

AHOY (Lapham C-19)

Barbara Luddy x Paradise Pink. Deep pink—36 inches—very ruffled standards and falls—good wide haft (Mass.).

AZURE LAKE (Muhl. 49-10)

Lovely medium blue, fine form, good substance, nice height and good branching (Idaho).

BLUE STEEL (Fraim)

Late flowering dark blue (Mass.).

Observed in Fraim's garden for fine color, form and branching (Mass.).

BUTTRICK 48-15A

A tight ruffled blue, form of Helen McGregor, but color as deep as Chivalry (Penn.).

Very blue—medium to light. Seafarer x Great Lakes. Good branching and substance, ruffled lovely flower. A very pure blue (Mass.).

BUTTRICK 46-94A

Very white—almost a green tone (Mass.).

Very broad pure white with very heavy firm substance (Mass.).

CAPE COD (Knowlton 48-124)

(Extravaganza x Wabash). A small amoena, of the clearest color contrast yet seen. Standards really white (Penn.).

A very pure amoena of moderate height, but probably will be taller (Mass.).

CLIFFDELL (Maxwell)

A very lovely iris. The colors are tan and heliotrope. It is flaring and has a Chantilly edge (Idaho).

35-inch stalk. Another blend combination with very heavy fluting and ruffling in both standards and falls (Wash.).

COOK, P. 4300

An arenaria hybrid. Pink self with gold high light at the haft. Standards open to show this beauty. Stole the show at dwarf iris meeting May 12-13, 1951 (Ill.).

Pink arenaria hybrid—cupped standards, wide flaring falls, 6 inches high, resembling a miniature Jap iris done in pink (Ind.).

Purple pink, flaring falls, cupped standards. Trim and pert (Mich.).

COOK, P. 8051

Standards rich cream, slightly ruffled, falls heliotrope with slight blue blend in the haft; extra good branching, bloom standing well away from main stem, holding well after a heavy rain (Ohio).

Yellow standards and falls of blue violet with a blue patch. Different—*very* (Mich.).

COOK, P. 9951

A bi-color. Falls so black when held on a piece of black leather they are almost the same, standards lighter, on blue black side. Medium large, good substance and branching, domed standards (Ohio).

There is absolutely no color in the falls—just black. I held my black purse beside the iris and they matched identically. The standards have a slight violet color but are as dark as any part of any so-called black iris. If you want a black iris—here it is (Mich.).

This is the blackest iris I have ever seen. The segments are not quite as wide as most of Cook's named things, though they are not bad (Ind.).

COREY L-50-1

A flaring tangerine bearded clear medium pink with flaring falls. Good size, form and substance. Best of this class seen in tour of most Massachusetts breeder's gardens (N. Y.).

A tangerine bearded pink of better form and color than most, from pollen of Pink Formal (Penn.).

DESERT TWILIGHT (Miess).

Large heavy substonced flowers of soft lilac with a golden brown haft. Flowers look as though they were enameled. Horizontal falls. Tall and beautifully branched (Calif.).

DOUGLAS, G. 820-A

Lovely rose blend (La.).

EBEN (McKee 5 114)

Very richly colored blend (Mass.).

ECHO (Kerr) No comments.

ELFIN LAKE (Dolman)

Dainty blue of different tone (Mass.).

FOULGER, W. #B-21-C

"Black." Night Spot x Black Forest (Utah).

Extremely dark flaring self, even to the beard. The best I have seen in this color (Utah).

FOX, E. R. 50-33.

Ola Kala x Bryce Canyon. 16 fans and 4 well branched stalks on a one year plant. Ruffled, flared, tall, large. Most beautiful yellow I saw anywhere (Tenn.).

FRAIM 48-100

A smooth orange yellow of intense color, good form and branching (Penn.).

FRANCES CRAIG (Craig)

No comments.

GAY SPRING (Knowlton 48-36A)

(Goldbeater x Ola Kala)

A ruffled, flaring deep yellow (Penn.).

Practically orange (Mass.).

GLISTENING COPPER (Muhl. 48-72)

Just what the name implies, a very lively color (Utah).

GLOWING GOLD (Knowlton 48-94 A)

A compact broad-hafted deep yellow with form of Helen McGregor and color of Prospector (Penn.).

Finely formed, lovely textured yellow (Mass.).

Rich Mellow Yellow with light blaze below rich yellow beard (Mass.).

GOLDEN MOON (Knowlton 45-33).

A smooth yellow with sturdy stalks of medium height. Good garden value (Mass.).

HIGH SEAS (Corey)

Excellent blue white, finely branched (Mass.).

ICECAPADE (Pierce, J. 49-26)

Better than usual icy blue (Tenn.).

Very pale blue, but distinctly blue. Tall, large, vigorous, and good bloomer (Tenn.).

IDA STONE (Mrs. J. M. Gorton)

Outstanding color and form (Texas).

Louisiana iris—best rose-red seen at Shreveport (Neb.).

LARSEN, C. 10-D-47.

Ruffled white seedling, was very lovely in flower arrangement at Salt Lake City Flower Show (Utah).

LARSEN, C. 15-B-41

Blue plicata (Utah).

LOWRY L-8-206

A flaring blend with conical standards and brown epaulettes on tan (Penn.).

Full flower of rich caramel tones (Mass.).

McKEE 5110.

Yellow amoena, nice form, wide standards and round falls; falls pale primrose standards are really white, nice (Mass.).

McKEE 5120

William J. McKee's pink seedling 5120 was the best one I saw. Had good size, substance and height (Mass.).

Tangerine bearded pink of medium size but fine flaring form—good substance (Penn.).

MEMPHIS BELLE (Pierce, J. 49-08)

About the color of Fantasy—tall, large—beautifully formed—the best tangerine bearded “pink” I’ve seen so far. It is hardy, floriferous, increases rapidly. In fact, it’s excellent (Tenn.).

A good pink, some orchid tone. Large, tall, good branching; multiplies well, lots of bloom, and sets seed splendidly (Tenn.).

MEXIGLOW (Crosby)

A very showy blend, lighter than Mexico, deeper than Mellowglow, its parents (Utah).

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (Naylor 49-L-11)

Cream—good (Idaho).

A lovely tall creamy white, nicely ruffled (Utah).

MUHLESTEIN 48-89

(Elmohr x Tompkins 42-58).

PURISSIMOHR (Weidner, S.: Pennsylvania)

A white derivative of William Mohr. A ruffled flaring flower of heavier substance than other Mohrs. The standards are flecked and streaked lavender on first opening and markings disappear after two hours of sunshine. The haft has a gold inlay at the edges instead of usual lines. Falls are very broad. Height of stalks is 40 inches, and there are nine flowers to the stalk. It has the usual Vandyke beard typical of the oncos, terminating in a sharp point. It will be in great demand when better known. It sets seed readily (Mass.).

SCHIRMER, C. S. 715

Very good blend, flaring falls, nice texture (Kans.).

SCHIRMER, C. R. 321

Big, flaring, ruffled creamy white—flushed chartreuse on the haft—orange yellow beard comes half-way down the fall which sort of tips under—or flares under (it’s hard to express). The whole thing is perfectly beautiful. The branching is nil, but these flowers are so exquisite you wouldn’t want but one in bloom on a stem at the same time. It was the outstanding treat of the season as far as I’m concerned (Tenn.).

SERENE VALLEY (Smith, K. D. #50-12)

Similar in color to Keene Valley; a little larger with less prominent veining and more waviness. Very vigorous. Good branching. Light beard (N.Y.).

Grasmere—Harriette Halloway—Serene Valley. Three shades of blue. G. being lightest—H. H. darkest but only medium blue—all large, ruffled, good form and substance (N.J.).

SNYDER 0-46

No comments.

SPANISH CREAM (Dolman)

A lovely cream with erect stalks and an unusual number of blooms open at once. Makes a good garden effect (Mass.).

TOMPKINS 49-400

No comments.

TOMPKINS 49-51

Very pure medium deep blue self. A color we need (Iowa).

WALKER, M. 7-49

No comments.

WATKINS, E. 49-5

Ruffled, true pink from Snow Flurry (Mass.).

Fine pink (Mass.).

A pink beauty (Mass.).

WHITE PEACOCK (Pattison)

Pure white, excellent branching, medium height (Calif.).

WHITING W 498

A fine white iris seen at Shreveport in Mrs. Colquitt's garden (Okla.).

Ruffled, flaring white flushed yellow at haft—large flower—medium height. The best white I saw at Shreveport (Tenn.).

Large ruffled white—tall—white beard (Ill.).

Boldly flaring starchy white—unusual form (Mich.).

Frosty white with cream colored haft not affecting an appearance of white white. Medium to large flower of excellent substance and form (Nebr.).

Beautiful white, good branching, good form, a delightful flower for show and garden (La.).

Crisp, ruffled white, about 36 inches tall, good size blooms, closed standards and very flaring falls. Very much ruffled. Stood up in Louisiana sun (Mo.).

WHITING W 50-30

Copper (Iowa).

—HAROLD W. KNOWLTON, *Chairman*, Awards Committee.

REPORT OF THE DWARF IRIS COMMITTEE

Any report of the Dwarf Iris Committee must include the activities of the Dwarf Iris Test Garden, the Dwarf Iris Club and our Dwarf Iris Robins, as they are inseparable and are the foundation upon which we are building our achievements.

Contrary to the experiences of the past, in which Test Gardens were of short duration and eventually were dissolved, the Dwarf Iris Test Garden has grown in popularity and prestige, and is now recognized as the fountain-head of learning in regard to dwarf iris. Growers and students of all degrees of proficiency come here to drink of the fountain of knowledge and all receive benefits according to their interests and desires.

This spring over 75 visitors were present for the most comprehensive display of varieties, species and hybrids that have ever been shown anywhere to date. Visitors from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Nebraska, Texas, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Canada found sufficient of interest to cause them to linger more than the normal one day schedule. Some were around from several days to over a week, making notes and recording various progenies, taking pictures and studying characteristics.

Dr. and Mrs. Randolph were here two full days making notes and studying rare hybrids. Paul Cook came on two week ends, Mrs. Greenlee and Mrs. Hudson stayed a full week. Orville Fay and Dr. Clark spent a busy Sunday here. Mr. and Mrs. Guy Stevens, Connie Zirbel, Dorothy Dennis, Mr. Lapham, Mr. Horton, Wilmer Flory, Doc. Jonas, Mary Williamson, Mr. Zickler, the Grapes sisters, Mrs. Robinson, Jay Ackerman, Mr. Englerth, and Mr. Ashley attended.

This is not the place to go into the material on display here, but it is sufficient to say that the above roster of names indicates that something of importance has happened to the Dwarfs.

The membership of our Dwarf Iris Club has increased from 100 to approximately 150 since the first of the year and is still climbing. This increase was due to some extent to the success of our first "Portfolio" or Year Book, which received such acclaim that the supply was exhausted almost immediately. Requests for copies arrived from England, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. We will publish the second number about Jan. 1st.

Our increase in membership will entitle us to five more Dwarf Iris Judges, adding to the excellent work achieved by our present ten judges. Much improvement in the quality of evaluation is shown in the current awards and in the quality and quantity of voting for the Dwarf

Iris Symposium. I want to commend the membership on their fine cooperation in voting for the Dwarfs this year.

We have enlarged our service to the membership by adding a lending library of dwarf iris literature and a kodachrome slide collection. We hope to enlarge these as we grow and solicit the help of our members.

It is almost with fear that I mention the Dwarf Iris Robins, as at the present time we have nine Robins and that is almost a full time job in itself. But it is pride in their achievements that forces me to bring attention to them. This was the nucleus around which our organization built; it has furnished us with fully competent judges, accumulated large collections of varieties over the country, carried on research and experimentation, and given us informative reports; furthermore their hybridizing efforts are contributing to the advancement of knowledge and improved quality in the varieties of Dwarfs. With almost ninety Robin members dedicated to the cause of greater dwarf iris, that is a force with which to reckon. Many of these members were just gardeners with a liking for dwarf iris at the beginning, now practically every member of our Robins are AIS members, well informed and fully competent to carry on a breeding program and judge Dwarfs intelligently.

Recently we sent out an announcement of a new award for dwarf iris seedlings. This is to be called the Test Garden Award and will go to the seedling sent to the Test Garden and receiving the most votes over a minimum of five. Judging will be by Accredited AIS judges, the seedling must be worthy of introduction and the Award will carry a recommendation of introduction, an award of H. C. and a cash prize of \$10.00. Seedlings of our own will not enter in competition. At the present time there are eight seedlings in the competitive planting.

Of prime importance at this time, or at any time for that matter, is a knowledge of the genetical composition and behavior of the various dwarf species and hybrids. Such knowledge has been very scarce in the past, but it is said that opportunity knocks once in a lifetime and this it is. Dr. Randolph and Miss Heinig have been making extensive studies of this material. To us dwarf iris breeders, that is the greatest thing that could happen, and a fine contribution to iris knowledge for all iris enthusiasts.—WALTER WELCH, *Chairman*, Dwarf Iris Committee.

Cytology and Breeding Behavior of Dwarf and Tall-Bearded Iris Hybrids

L. F. RANDOLPH and KATHERINE HEINIG

A discussion of recent developments in the breeding of dwarf irises in an earlier issue of this Bulletin¹ emphasized the potential value of hybrids of *Iris pumila* L. and improved garden varieties of tetraploid tall bearded irises as a source of new varieties of dwarfs.

The fertility of these hybrids has now been demonstrated by several hybridizers from tests of both F₁ and F₂ progenies and from back-crosses to the parental forms. Their fertility is in marked contrast to the high degree of sterility that is characteristic of the Intermediate Bearded hybrids of the chamaeiris dwarfs and tall bearded diploids and tetraploids, which are very difficult to utilize in breeding because of their high sterility, but have important garden value since they are truly intermediate in height and blooming season between the early blooming dwarfs and the later blooming tall bearded varieties.

The *pumila* X tetraploid tall hybrids resemble the chamaeiris dwarfs in stature and season of bloom more closely than they do the typical Intermediates. This is not surprising in view of the fact that *I. pumila* blooms a week or ten days earlier than the chamaeiris types and has a very short flower stalk ordinarily not more than an inch in height, the blooms being elevated to a height of 3 to 6 inches by the extension of a very elongate perianth tube. If the tall bearded parent is a relatively early blooming sort the hybrids with *pumila* bloom earlier than when the tall parent is a later blooming variety, according to information received from Mr. Geddes Douglas. Likewise, tall varieties with relatively short flower stalks would be expected to produce shorter hybrids than very tall varieties.

If the tall varieties used in crosses with *pumila* are heterozygous for genes concerned with height differences and earliness of bloom the F₁ seedlings would most certainly differ with respect to these characteristics. An F₁ progeny of from 50 to 60 seedlings which bloomed in Mr. Paul Cook's garden in 1948 was remarkably uniform for height and most of the seedlings were blooming at the same time. However, a Blue Symphony x *pumila* cross that was made at Ithaca in the same year produced seedlings varying in height from less than 6 inches to about 18 inches, and although most of them bloomed at the same time as chamaeiris dwarfs in adjoining rows, some were definitely earlier and others much later. From a cross of Blue Shimmer, a tall *plicata* x Carpathia, a yellow *pumila*, Walter Welch obtained a notably uniform

¹ Randolph, L. F. New vistas for breeders of dwarf iris. Bull. Amer. Iris Soc. 118: 64-68. 1950.

progeny of 19 seedlings that varied in height from only about 6 to 10 inches. These seedlings were in full bloom on May 12, 1951 in the Dwarf Iris Test Garden at Middlebury, Indiana, when the earliest dwarfs in this garden had finished blooming and the late-blooming dwarfs were just coming into flower. In other words, their blooming period coincided with that of the midseason dwarfs. All were yellows or near whites and there were no plicatas or blue purples. Apparently *Carpathia* is true breeding or nearly so for the dominant inhibitor of anthocyanin color and does not carry the *plicata* factor of Blue Shimmer.

It is not difficult to hybridize *I. pumila* and tall bearded irises, although they are taxonomically and cytologically very different and their periods of bloom do not coincide. If kept in a dry place, iris pollen remains viable for several weeks and pollen of *I. pumila* collected at Ithaca, N.Y. from freshly opened blooms during the first week in May has been used successfully in crosses with tall bearded varieties from four to six weeks later. Advantage may also be taken of the fact that the blooming season of the early dwarfs in northern states coincides with the blooming period of the tall bearded varieties in southern states and pollen may be exchanged to the mutual advantage of iris breeders in both regions.

Early records of hybrids involving *I. pumila* and tall bearded irises are of uncertain value because of the confusion that has existed from the time of Linnaeus concerning the correct identification of this species. For example, the parentage of Primavera (Mohr-Mitchell, 1926) is given as *pumila* x *mesopotamica*, but it has 44 chromosomes of which 24 must have come from *mesopotamica*. Therefore, a *chamaeiris* or other 40-chromosome species must have been the dwarf parent rather than the true 32-chromosome *pumila*. Simonet² published a list of various hybrid combinations of dwarf irises together with their chromosome numbers and in this list was included a 40-chromosome *pumila* x *macrantha* hybrid. An F₂ seedling of Black Wings x *pumila* acquired from Robert Schreiner in 1942 has 40 chromosomes, and the same number is also present in Paul Cook's seedling No. 3348, a hybrid of a tall blue tetraploid and *pumila*, and in Randolph's 48-245 (*Blue Symphony* x *pumila*) which furnished the cytological material for the chromosome studies reported here.

Since both parents of the *pumila* X tall cross are natural tetraploids and each contributed two sets of chromosomes to the hybrid it was assumed that the fertility of the F₁ seedlings was the result of regular pairing among themselves of the chromosomes comprising the two sets of each parent. If the 16 *pumila* chromosomes formed 8 pairs and the 24 chromosomes of the tall bearded parent formed 12 pairs the

² Simonet, Marc. Nouveaux hybrides interspecificques d'Iris Pogoniris. Comptes rendus des seances de l'Academie des Sciences. 202: 1094-1096. 1936.

40 chromosomes of the hybrid seedlings would appear as 20 pairs in the first reduction division.

Cytological examination of the microsporocytes from which the pollen originates revealed that in many of the cells all of the chromosomes were regularly paired as 20 bivalents at the metaphase of the first reduction division. In other cells there were a few unpaired, univalent chromosomes and in rare instances trivalent associations of the chromosomes were seen.

The observed frequency of cells with 20 pairs (Fig. 1, *a* and *c*) and with fewer than 20 pairs plus corresponding numbers of univalents (Fig. 1, *b* and *d*) is given in Table 1 for each of the hybrids examined and for three 40-chromosome dwarfs of natural origin. Both were found to have much the same synaptic chromosome behavior, with appreciable unexplained differences between stocks of each group in the frequency of cells that have chromosomes all of which form pairs. In one of the *pumila* x tall hybrids (R 48-245) cells with a trivalent chromosome were noted in 3 of the 33 sporocytes that were examined.

Irregularities in the meiotic chromosome behavior of diploid organisms ordinarily have a noticeable effect on breeding behavior, especially fertility and the segregation of specific characters. Chromosomes that are unpaired at metaphase, due either to failure of pairing or to precocious desynapsis, are distributed to the daughter cells from which the germ cells originate with much less regularity than are paired chromosomes. Their presence is indicative of a lower level of homology than is required for their persistence as pairs during the late prophase and metaphase of the first reduction division. The random assortment of these univalents in the anaphase and their frequent failure to be

FIGURE 1.—Photographs of chromosomes of iris hybrids during the first reduction division preceding the formation of the germ cells. Magnification approximately x 1500. (a). Metaphase stage in a sporocyte of R 48-245 (Blue Symphony x *I. pumila*) showing 20 chromosome pairs of which two have already separated. (b). Sporocyte from a sister plant with an extra chromosome having 19 pairs plus 3 univalents. (c). R 47-05 (Balkana open pollinated), a 40-chromosome dwarf showing 20 pairs. (d). Another cell from the same plant with 18 pairs plus 4 univalents. (e). Primavera, a 44-chromosome intermediate, with the most commonly observed configuration of 16 pairs and 12 univalents. (f). *I. germanica* L. a typical 44-chromosome intermediate, showing the characteristic lagging and splitting of univalents in anaphase I, which may result in an unequal distribution to the germ cells or failure of the chromosome to be included in either daughter nucleus. (g). Atroviolacea, a 36-chromosome *pumila* x *chamaeiris* hybrid with 10 pairs and 16 univalents. (h). R 47-102 (*pumila* open pollinated); having 36-chromosomes and showing 12 pairs plus 12 univalents.



a



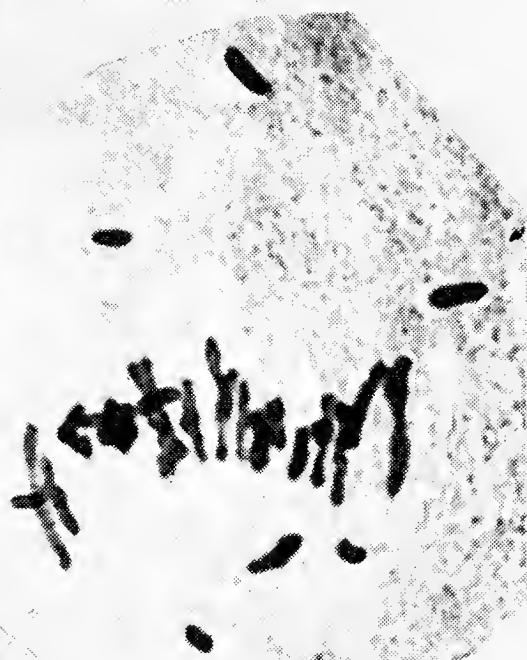
b



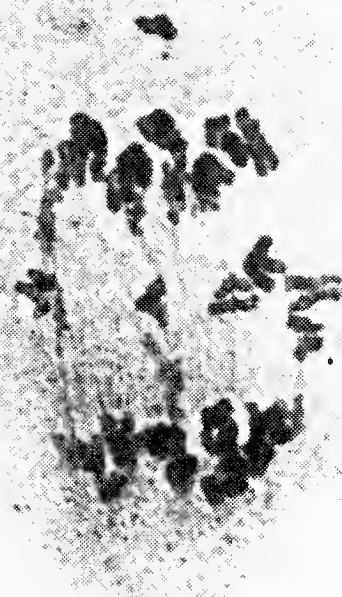
c



d



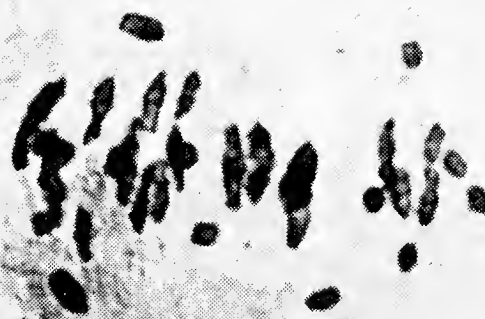
e



f



g



h

TABLE 1
Chromosome pairing in hybrids of I. pumila x tall bearded varieties and related types.

	Parents					
	Cells with various numbers of paired and unpaired chromosomes					
	20''	19'' + 2'	18'' + 4'	17'' + 6'	16'' + 8'	Cells with a trivalent chr.
<i>40-chr. pumila X tall hybrids</i>						
Cook 3348	35	23	2			
R 48-245	5	9	13	2	1	3
F ₂ Black Wings X <i>pumila</i>	1	7	4			
<i>40-chr. dwarfs</i>						
Marocain	6	2	3			
Balkana	35	34	17	4		
R 47-05	108	24	3			
	17'' + 10'	16'' + 12'	15'' + 14'	14'' + 16'	13'' + 18'	
<i>44-chr. Intermediates</i>						
Primavera	3	29	7	1	1	
Black Magic		2	4			
Crimson King	2			2		
	12'' + 12'	11'' + 14'	10'' + 16'	9'' + 18'	8'' + 20'	Cells with trivalent
<i>36-chr. dwarf hybrids</i>						
Atroviolacea	34	17	12	3	3	6
R 47-102	43	24	7	1	1	3

included in either daughter nucleus would be expected to produce germ cells with unbalanced chromosome numbers and altered breeding behavior.

As previously stated the *pumila* x tall hybrids are highly fertile. Reports from breeders who have sib-crossed them and crossed them back to the parents or out-crossed them to chamaeiris types have found that they produce seed from such crosses about as freely as ordinary irises. In tests conducted at Ithaca, N.Y. during the current season sib crosses of different F₁ seedlings yielded 258 seeds from 8 pods, an average of 32 seeds per pod, and from out-crosses to chamaeiris dwarfs an average of 52 seeds per pod was obtained from one cross and 42 per pod from another cross. Such yields probably are not far from the average for chamaeiris dwarfs.

The occurrence of a high level of fertility in the presence of a certain amount of chromosome irregularity in these hybrids probably is due to the fact that they are polyploids. The loss or addition of one or a few chromosomes from a gamete containing two rather than one set of chromosomes ordinarily does not affect adversely the functioning of such gametes as much as it does the ability to function of gametes containing a single set of chromosomes, as in diploid organisms.

In this connection it is noteworthy that the intermediate 44-chromosome hybrids of the 40-chromosome dwarfs and 48-chromosome tall, which also have varying numbers of paired and unpaired chromosomes

(Table 1 and Fig 1, *e* and *f*), are highly sterile. Cytologically, these two groups of hybrids are very different. The prevalence of autosynapsis in the *pumila* x tall hybrids results in the formation of gametes which have a complete set of chromosomes from each parent, i.e., 8 from *pumila* and 12 from the tetraploid tall parent. In the 44-chromosome hybrids such as Primavera, it may be assumed that the two sets of 12 chromosomes contributed to the hybrid by the tall parent pair among themselves just as in the *pumila* x tetraploid tall hybrids. This would account for 12 of the 16 chromosomal pairs observed most frequently in these intermediates; and if this assumption is correct the additional 4 pairs must represent the secondary pairing of 8 of the 20 chromosomes contributed to the hybrid by the dwarf parent. The possible significance of this manner of pairing will be discussed later in connection with an account of a rather similar pairing behavior of the chromosomes in 36-chromosome dwarf hybrids.

It was definitely established that trivalent chromosome association occurred infrequently in the R-48-245 *pumila* x tall hybrid. This suggested that the chromosomes of *pumila* and of the tall bearded tetraploid parents were not pairing among themselves exclusively (autosynapsis) but were sufficiently alike to form occasional synaptic associations (allosynapsis). However, this is not the only possible interpretation of the trivalents in these hybrids.

Recently, in a very brief account of meiosis in tetraploid species hybrids of iris, Simonet³ reported having observed univalents and trivalents in addition to bivalents in a *pumila* x *macrantha* hybrid. Simonet stated that such meiotic irregularities prove without doubt ("*proviennent sans doute*") that allosynapsis occurs in these hybrids and may explain variations in height and branching of otherwise homogeneous F₂ populations. These conclusions are not necessarily valid for two reasons. Heterozygosity of the tall bearded parent for genes regulating height and branching not carried by the dwarf parent would result in segregation of these characters in the presence of exclusively autosynaptic pairing. Also, trivalents and quadrivalents could be formed by autosynapsis if either or both parents contributed to the hybrid more than two sets of homologous chromosomes.

Species of dwarf and tall bearded iris have various gametic chromosome numbers, including the numbers 8, 12, 16, 20 and 24, that are obviously multiples of the number 4, as Simonet pointed out long ago.⁴ Thus *I. pumila* could be fundamentally an octoploid rather than a tetraploid and in hybrid combinations with other species quadriv-

³ Simonet, Marc. Sur la meiose de quelques hybrides realises entre especes tetraploides d'Iris. I. Hybrides de la section Pogoniris. Comptes rendus des seances de l'Academie des Sciences 231: 1158-1160. 1950.

⁴ Simonet, Marc. Nouvelles recherches cytologiques et genetiques chez les Iris. Ann. Des. Sc. Nat., Bot., 10e serie. 16: 231-383. 1934.

alents or trivalents as well as bivalents might be formed by autosynapsis.

Support for the assumption that 4 is the base number for the dwarfs appeared rather unexpectedly during an analysis of the pairing behavior of the chromosomes in 36-chromosome *pumila* x *chamaeiris* hybrids, which showed not infrequently 12 pairs and 12 single chromosomes (Fig. 1, *h*), a combination that would not be expected if 8 were the base number. The frequency of bivalents and univalents in the two 36-chromosome *pumila* x *chamaeiris* hybrids that were examined cytologically is given in Table 1, one of these hybrids being the variety *Atroviolacea* named by Salter before 1859 and the other a chance seedling obtained by Randolph from seed of *pumila* yellow in 1948. The possibility that 4 of the 16 chromosome pairs often formed by Primavera, the 44-chromosome intermediate, resulted from autosynapsis of 8 of the 20 chromosomes contributed to the hybrid by the dwarf parent might also be considered as evidence in support of this assumption. If it were not for evidence of this sort it would be more plausible to consider 8 as the base number for the dwarfs and species or varieties with $n = 12$ and 20 to be secondarily derived from 8×16 and 16×24 combinations.

The breeding behavior of the 40-chromosome *pumila* x tall bearded hybrids indicates that their chromosomes are pairing more frequently by autosynapsis than by allosynapsis. There is relatively little segregation in the F_2 generation for the extreme differences in the height of flower stalk and in the blooming period that characterize the parent forms. If the chromosomes of *pumila* were pairing regularly with those of the tall parent pronounced segregations for these characters would be expected in F_2 . An appreciable amount of segregation also would be expected if pairs were formed at random in the F_1 among the chromosomes contributed by both parents.

The cytological studies of the *pumila* x tetraploid tall bearded iris hybrids reported here are important from the breeding standpoint chiefly because they indicate that there may be a limited amount of segregation in F_2 for characteristics that distinguish the parent types. Furthermore, if either parent is of mixed heredity there will be segregation for the heterozygous genes that are contributed to the cross, and this type of segregation would be expected to occur more regularly than the segregation for differences between the parents.

Several F_2 progenies of *pumila* x tetraploid tall crosses have bloomed during the past two years in Paul Cook's garden, and according to information received recently from him these progenies showed no wider

variation in height of stem than occurred in the F_1 generation.⁵ Similar results have been obtained by Geddes Douglas who intercrossed tall bearded and *pumila* seedlings two years ago and this year reported that, "There is no segregation of tall ones in them at all." It appears from these results that strains of relatively true breeding dwarfs can be established simply by crossing *I. pumila* with tetraploid tall. So many different kinds of tall bearded irises are available for crossing at the present time that it should be possible by judicious selection to produce almost any desired type of 40-chromosome dwarf iris, especially as additional color forms and other variants of *pumila* become available for breeding purposes.

Whether the new category of the garden varieties of *pumila* and tall parentage now in the process of being developed in ever increasing numbers should be designated as Intermediates in conformity with the revised classification of the bearded irises recently adopted by the American Iris Society,⁶ or provision be made to place them in some other category is a question that should not be decided prematurely without ample opportunity to evaluate their characteristics. The traits that enhance the value of these new dwarfs as garden subjects are very similar to, if not identical with, those of typical chamaeiris dwarfs. But if their parentage is to be the determining factor, according to the present rules they must be classified as Intermediates. Furthermore, the problem will not be disposed of merely by classifying the F_1 hybrids, since F_2 and advanced generation progenies as well as back cross progenies of these plants are readily procurable and will most certainly yield valuable new horticultural varieties. Systems of classification are rarely flexible enough to accomodate wholly new categories without a certain amount of revision.

From the evolutionary standpoint the remarkable resemblance in height and blooming period of the experimental *pumila* x tall hybrids and of the established 40-chromosome dwarfs and the close similarity in the manner of pairing of their chromosomes is interpreted as evidence favoring the view that the chamaeiris dwarfs and related species having 40 chromosomes originated in nature as spontaneous hybrids of *pumila* dwarfs and tall bearded iris. The union of normally reduced

⁵ After reading a preliminary draft of this article Mr. Cook commented as follows: "Maybe I should say again that I have noted nothing among seedlings of the F_2 progenies from $4n$ tall X *pumila* that indicates anything in the way of pairing between *pumila* chromosomes and tall chromosomes. I feel sure you are right when you say the variation in height of stem, time of bloom, etc. can be explained in terms of heterozygosity within the tall and within the *pumila* parents of these intermediate hybrids, and this would apply to the F_2 as well as to the F_1 generation."

⁶ Randolph, L. F. Revised Classification of the bearded iris. Bull. Amer. Iris Soc. 109: 3-8. 1948.

gametes of *I. pumila* and tetraploid tall bearded irises, or the union of unreduced gametes of diploid tall bearded sorts with normally reduced gametes of *pumila* would produce hybrids having the same number of chromosomes as the chamaeiris dwarfs, and the available evidence indicates that they would resemble the chamaeirises very closely in appearance and breeding behavior. However, additional information concerning the geographical distribution of dwarf and tall bearded iris species in southern Europe is needed to determine whether such hybrids could have occurred spontaneously in their native environment.

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Somerton, Arizona

Three Kinds of White Bearded Iris

A. H. STURTEVANT

Kerckhoff Laboratories of Biology
California Institute of Technology, Pasadena

White Bearded Iris differ from the "standard" type (blue-purple, the color of *I. pallida*) in that the blue or purple anthocyanin color is absent or very greatly reduced in amount in the petals. Genetically the yellow varieties are like the whites in this respect, but differ in carrying a dominant gene for yellow plastid granules, ultimately derived from *I. variegata*.

It has been clear for some time (Sturtevant & Randolph 1945, Amer. Iris Soc. Bull. 99:52-66; Sturtevant 1947, *The Iris, An Ideal Hardy Perennial*, pp. 96-105.) that most modern white and yellow Bearded Iris carry a dominant gene, I (inhibitor), received from dwarf ancestors (*I. chamaeiris* or a similar form). This is the reason for the absence of anthocyanin from the blades of the petals in such forms as *Purissima*, *Snow Flurry*, *New Snow*, *Lady Boscawen*, *Ming Yellow*, *Spun Gold*, or *Fort Knox*—to name only a few well-known varieties.

The dominant white just mentioned is not known in the older diploid varieties—evidently because of the greater difficulty of transferring genes from dwarfs to diploids. There are, however, white and yellow diploid types that are not distinguishable by eye from the tetraploids that carry the dominant gene I. These carry a recessive, known as w; examples are *Taj Mahal*, *Chartier*, *Solitaire*, *Shekinah*, *Chasseur*, *Pluie d'Or*. Since some of these have been used in crosses to tetraploids it would be expected that the recessive white would have appeared among their tetraploid descendants, and this is the case, though *Dayspring* is the only named variety of this type that I know.¹ I have a tetraploid seedling from *Chasseur* x *Alta California* that is of this type, and have seen some seedlings of *Craig's* from *Cordovan* that appear to be so. It follows that *Alta California*, which certainly carries I, also carries w, though the latter, being recessive, is clearly not responsible for the great reduction of anthocyanin in *Alta California*.

In both of these types—I and w—there is always some anthocyanin left in the form of veining at the bases of the petals, and there may be a faint bluish tinge (tannish in the presence of the gene for yellow) on the blade as well, as in such types as *Taj Mahal*, *Mount Cloud*, *Snow Flurry*, or *Alta California*. Sometimes the veining is very much reduced, as in *Solitaire* or *Pluie d'Or*, but careful search shows it to be still present.

¹ *Dayspring* selfed gave me 9 yellows and 4 whites; *Dayspring* X *Dymia* gave 8 self blue-purples; *Dayspring* x *Rosy Wings* gave 1 self pink blend. See also the crosses to *Matterhorn* and *Los Angeles* reported below.

There is a visibly distinct type of anthocyanin removal, which is complete. In Matterhorn or Elsa Sass there is no trace of basal veining. This type is known only in tetraploids. It is clearly due to a recessive gene, which is carried in most tetraploid plicatas. On crossing Dayspring to Matterhorn I got 9 plants, all of them self blue-purples; Dayspring x Los Angeles (which carries this all-white gene) gave only 20 blue-purples. It follows that the two visibly distinct recessive whites are due to independent genes.

The fact that most tetraploid plicatas carry the "all-white" gene suggests that it is related to the plicata gene, *pl*, and tests have shown that this is in fact the case. Whites (and yellows) of this type have nearly all come from crossing two plicatas together. They might therefore be homozygous for two separate recessive genes (*pl* and "all-white"), or the "all-white" might be merely an alternative form of *pl*, which we may symbolize as *pl* - *a*. In either case "all-whites" would give plicatas and "all-whites" but no selfs when crossed to plicatas carrying "all-white," and this has often been found to occur. The critical cross is that of a self color from ("all-white" x self color) crossed back to "all-white." On the assumption of independent genes this must give plicatas, while on the second assumption above (that of "multiple alleles") it cannot do so unless the original self used carried the gene *pl*. The cross (The Admiral x Elsa Sass) x Elsa Sass, recorded by Randolph (1950 Amer. Iris Soc. Bull., 119) is of the type required, and appears to have given no plicatas, though Randolph suggests that there may have been "plicata influence" in some of the selfs.

The assumption of multiple alleles, i.e., that "all-white" is a second modification of the same original "standard" gene that gave rise to *pl*, is in good agreement with the high frequency with which plicatas carry "all-white." I know of no tested tetraploid plicata that does not carry it, whereas the gene seems to be rather uncommon in non-plicatas. These facts alone would be almost enough to establish the multiple allele relation.

It may be surmised that the pattern found in such varieties as Moonlit Sea, Aladdin's Wish, or Weirdie represents still another member of the *pl* series of alleles, in which the anthocyanin is removed from the bases of the petals but is left as streaks on the blades. The relationship here needs more study, but my present guess is that this is a *pl* allele. "Fancies" appear to carry both this allele and the usual *pl* of ordinary plicatas, though this last supposition is based merely on their appearance and has no basis in experiment.

It appears that "all-white" and the Moonlit Sea type are both confined to the tetraploids. Their origin is uncertain. Among diploids (as among tetraploids) there are great variations in the plicata pattern (cf. such things as Mme. Chereau and Stipples). Perhaps the situation will be clearer when these are more fully studied.

Notes on the Tangerine Beard

A. H. STURTEVANT

Kerckhoff Laboratories of Biology
California Institute of Technology, Pasadena

Microscopic examination of tangerine flowers shows that the red pigment is in granules. It is evidently a modification of the usual yellow pigment. This at once explains why the characteristic color is most often evident in the beard, since that is where yellow is most often intense. It also explains why tangerine-bearded pinks so often throw yellows and whites when crossed to non-tangerines, since such pinks must be yellows plus a recessive gene (*t*) that turns yellow pigment into tangerine.

Most of the existing tangerine pinks are evidently of the composition I Y—i.e., they carry the dominant inhibitor of anthocyanin and the dominant gene for yellow pigment. My own crosses show that this is so for Melitza and Flora Zenor, and the published pedigrees suggest that it is true for most existing tangerine pinks.

As shown in the accompanying paper, there are two other types of tetraploid yellows, typified by Dayspring and by Elsa Sass. It should be possible to produce tangerine pinks corresponding to each of these; I know of none corresponding to Dayspring; but the pedigree suggests that Edward of Windsor is of the Elsa Sass type. If this is correct it should be possible to produce a new series from it—one may even hope that they will not all be as unsatisfactory as Edward.

I formerly supposed (Sturtevant 1947) that Goldfish and Seashell were diploid tangerines. Breeding tests have now convinced me that Goldfish at least is a tetraploid; and all my attempts to recover diploid tangerines from crosses involving Airy Dream, Dogrose, and Marquissette (all suspected of carrying it) have failed. There seems to be no good reason to suppose that the gene *t* exists in diploids.

I suggested (Sturtevant 1947), from an analysis of pedigrees, that Kashmir White might be one of the sources for the gene *t* in tetraploids. This has now been confirmed, by the recovery of an unmistakable tangerine from Kashmir White x Titian Princess. Did *t*, like I, come from dwarfs of the *chamaeiris* group? Is it present in Intermediates, such as Albicans or Florentina?

There follows a list of known carriers of the gene *t*. This has been compiled from a variety of sources, and may include some inaccuracies; it is to be expected, however, that any of the listed varieties will yield tangerines when crossed to tangerines.

Chosen, Clovelly, Copper Crystal, Dore, Easter Morn, Fabulous Kate, Frank Adams, Golden Eagle, Gold Ruffles, Jeb Stuart, Kashmir White, Mary Rich Lyon, Midwest Gem, Moongold, Morocco Rose, Mount

Washington, Nylon, Orchid Lady, Painted Desert, Pathfinder, Purissima, Sandia, Sharkskin, Snow Flurry, Song of Gold, Spring Romance, Welcome, W. R. Dykes.

It is also rather probable that the following are carriers, though the evidence is less convincing:

Amitola, Argentina, Gay Troubadour, Gudrun, Lady Paramount, Prairie Sunset, Rameses.

New Registrar and Recorder of Introductions Appointed



Mrs. Geo. D. Robinson

All communications regarding registrations including requests for registration blanks should be addressed to Mrs. George D. Robinson, 167 East Hamilton Lane, Battle Creek, Mich. All requests for official recording of introductions should be referred to Mrs. Walter Colquitt, 487 Albany, Shreveport, La.

Following the announcement of the resignation of Mr. Robert E. Allen as Registrar of the Society, President Guy Rogers has appointed Mrs. George D. Robinson to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Allen's resignation. Likewise the Recorder of Introductions will be Mrs. Walter Colquitt.



Mrs. Walter Colquitt,
New Recorder, with
Professor Ira Nelson.

Our Members Write . . .

BENZINE HEXA CHLORIDE

Many letters have come to us in recent months reporting the successful use of BHC in the control of borers. This is very gratifying for after application BHC will remain on the foliage a long time, much longer than the various DDT mixtures now in use.

Our spray expert, Mr. E. K. Hardison, warns that Benzine Hexa Chloride, in the *low gamma form* has a most disagreeable odor. This odor persists for days, and if the drift from the spraying happens to blow over on adjacent vegetables or fruit, the flavor will be ruined. However, this may be avoided by using the *pure gamma* form which has no odor. One such product is sold under the trade name of Lindane; there are several others on the market. —THE EDITOR.

NOTES RE EXHIBITING IRIS

From the standpoint of spectator interest, I doubt that strict adherence to the sample show schedule suggested in the AIS Show and Exhibition Rules affords too good a basis for effective exhibits.

For the novice grower, I agree that judging of specimen stalks is the fairest approach. Likewise, when the entries are heavy, it certainly is easier on the judges to have all the flowers in one class arranged in one place.

However, to have this type of arrangement dominate a show leads to an unpleasant sameness. It is well recognized that the slight margin of difference between iris varieties of a particular color will never be so apparent as when the varieties are brought together. In a group of say, twenty different blues, or whites, very few varieties will evidence much in the way of distinctiveness.

The finest floral exhibits seem to me to be those in which each space in the show hall is reserved by an individual exhibitor, and the exhibitor is permitted to fill the various classes in his own space as he sees fit. In this handling of exhibits, specimen stalks can be arranged by each exhibitor to his own taste. He can supply his table with arrangements and can adopt his own color placements. This gives an individual exhibitor a chance to exploit his best flowers and to compete for best general display and most artistic display, classes for which should always be included in the schedule. In addition to emphasis on "arrangements," containers of six, twelve or more flowers of a variety, or a type, to be judged from the flower perfection standpoint rather than from the "arrangement" standpoint, would add variety to a show and provide a further basis for interesting competition. This type of exhibit is particularly adapted for the "Amateur" class, which seemed to be non-existent in the shows I saw this year.

A further important reason for emphasizing individual displays rather than the mixed display which the suggested schedule now leads to, is that on the second day of a show, iris flowers usually need a lot of attention. Old flowers must be removed and new flowers added if anything resembling a presentable exhibit is to be achieved. The incentive to do this will be lacking if all the flowers of a certain color or type are required to be grouped in one mass exhibit representing no one individual.

Some noted iris growers frown entirely on iris shows and feel that the place for iris is the garden. However this may be, exhibitions do have a useful place in developing iris interest, but

an effort should be made to make these exhibits as attractive and varied as possible.

In my own experience I have seen dahlia shows in San Francisco and other places progress from the mass milk bottle, specimen stage to displays of individual efforts and of great beauty. One of the ways of bringing this about was the adoption of classification schedules giving the exhibitor considerable leeway in the handling of the exhibit. The latest schedule for the British Iris Show offers some suggestions that could readily be adopted by the AIS, but even that schedule could be greatly improved upon.

I could also comment on the unfavorable lighting and table arrangement in the shows I have seen, but these handicaps are often unavoidable because of the defects in the exhibition room. Certainly in the shows I saw this year, the show managements did their best to overcome obstacles afforded by unsatisfactory exhibition halls. However, much can be done toward the development of proper lighting and good backgrounds; and all this should come about as a matter of course where the individual is given greater incentive by the schedule and accepts the responsibility of setting up and maintaining his own exhibit.—HAROLD I. JOHNSON, Calif.

IRIS MAKE TROUBLE

The following clipping from the Herald and News (Klamath Falls, Oregon) may be of interest to some of our members.

“Garden Iris Makes Trouble

“Iris might be among the nicest and most-wanted of garden flowers in the Klamath Basin, but the wild variety is causing no end of trouble to local stock growers.

“Wild iris have a bitter taste and consequently fattening cattle won’t eat it. And the plant is fast taking over many pastures—some of them have virtually been inundated by the flower.

“Controlling measures are being sought by the county agent’s office here, but to date nothing conclusive has been determined.

“The Plant is one of the prettiest mountain and meadow wild-flowers to be found in this area. It grows throughout the Northwest.

“To date different mixtures of 2 4-d compounds have been tried on the plants with varying results.”

Of course the title “Garden Iris” is incorrect. These wild iris belong to the *Missouriensis* complex. I have an albino clump in my garden.

I am doing something that also might interest others. So very many of my iris do not bloom—too shady perhaps or too many tree roots. I have been digging these and find rhizomes 12 inches or more long in many instances. So I have cut these into inch sections, planted in half-nail kegs in very rich soil and now in about a month I am having oodles of little new shoots growing. Also have planted the small sections in the garden and they are sending up shoots. I shall get my increase though it is like growing seedlings.—MRS. G. A. KRAUSE, Ore.

YOUNGEST LIFE MEMBER

Frank B. Galyon, though young in years, is old in iris experience. While still in high school Frank was making crosses and during his tenure at the University of Tennessee Medical School he began a comprehensive breeding program with his interest centered around the amoenas.

Through the kind offices of the authorities at the University of Michigan Hospital, permission has been given Dr. Galyon to plant his breeding stock at the University’s Botanical Garden. Thus his breeding work may progress uninterrupted during his internship.—EDITOR’S NOTE.

I am thrilled finally to be able to become a Life Member of the AIS. Please find enclosed check for \$75.00 to cover the life membership fee.

Just today I finished planting all the irises I brought up here from Tennessee. In moving my iris garden from Knoxville to Ann Arbor I thought I

was being quite conservative in bringing with me only one or two rhizomes of each named variety I wanted to use in my breeding program, and a similar number of selected seedlings. However by the time I had all my unbloomed new seedlings dug the total number of rhizomes was just at 1000. One thousand iris plants has proved to be an immense number to plant by yourself, particularly when the new duties of an intern consume so much time, both day and night.

I think the planting arrangement that I have is an ideal one. My irises are planted in rows at the University of Michigan Botanical Gardens and they are not only furnishing me the land but also fertilizer and they run a cultivator between the rows for me to keep down weeds. The only drawback is that it is a semi-public garden and the caretaker has warned me that they have had trouble with people coming in and cutting and digging things. However he says that if a flower or stalk is bagged that they will usually not bother it. I hate to think that I may have to bag each iris that I cross but it may have to be that way.

It was such a pleasure to get to be in your garden (Ye Editor's) at iris blooming time this year. I wish I could have been there about a week later so I could have seen more of your amoena seedlings as I too am quite interested in this line of breeding. I'm sure you'll be interested to know that the piece of Olympian which you gave me is now planted here in Ann Arbor.—FRANK B. GALYON, University Hospital, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

SPLIT POLLEN

Many varieties of iris have a full grown anther that is as barren of pollen as a hound's tooth. Helen McGregor is one of these. Take a dental pick and split the ridge on each side of the anther and place on a stone in the sun for one half hour. Then place under a microscope and some full size grains of pollen can be seen and a percentage of takes from this pollen

may be expected. If you split the anther and leave it attached to the bloom until the next day an increase in the amount of pollen can be seen. By this method I have made many crosses that would have been impossible otherwise.—M. J. BROWNELL, N.Y.

BACKSLIDER IS BACK

Here are my dues for year beginning July '51, a trifle late as I had not intended remaining in Society. But after reading July Bulletin those articles by Dr. Cook, Isabelle Henderson and Lila McCombs were so good I changed my mind. Also Mr. David Johnson's "Critique of Progress" was splendid.

Most of us little iris lovers like to read of the treks to grand and lovely gardens and hope to go some time, but mostly we need help right in our own gardens. Such help as Dr. Cook might give. I read with interest of his rhizome increase and performance.—MRS. E. B. SPOONAMORE, Kan.

HELPFUL SERVICE

After reading Mr. H. O. Kelley's article in the last number of the Bulletin and the Editor's foreword with its enumeration of the services of the American Iris Society to its new members, I venture to suggest that a most helpful service would be the presentation to every new member of a reprint of Dr. Franklin Cook's article *Super Iris for a Dollar or Less* that also appeared in the same Bulletin.

The reading of his article should counteract the impression of Mr. Kelley's second correspondent (and others of the same mind) that the Bulletins are "not written for down-to-earth medium-priced growers who are growers for pleasure only" but "for people interested chiefly in hybridizing and promoting new varieties."—THORNTON JENKINS, Mass.

I have been a member of the AIS for the past two years and want to tell you I think the July 1951 Bulletin the best of them all.

This Bulletin had more good infor-

mation for the average iris lover and contained more interesting articles than any of the other Bulletins. Do hope you will continue with more articles for us average amateurs.

I would like to have more up to date articles covering these subjects: How to select flower stalks for the show. How to control blooms to meet date of the show, in other words can blooms be speeded up or retarded from normal bloom time. Is there any special way to prepare bloom stalks to make them last longer than normal life. What would be the best culture to follow in order to secure best blooms for the show.

I believe if we had a series of articles on these subjects it would bring more blooms to our 1952 show here in St. Louis.

Many amateurs who grow iris are also interested in photography and take many pictures of their flowers. I have enjoyed Mr. Cassebeer's photography article in "The Iris" and it has helped me considerably. Would like more articles giving helpful information on how to take these professional looking kodachrome slides. Such articles would help the kodachrome slide Robins now being formed.

Would like to see a larger "Our Members Write" column. It is the actual experience of others that is interesting, that gives you the latest developments and methods on growing iris, the best methods of controlling disease and other iris troubles. Every member should share his experiences with other members through the Bulletin.—ALBERT G. LAUK, Ill.

IRIS IN CALIFORNIA SKIES

The fates were kind to me and I managed to get up to the Hannagan Meadows after all. We squeezed five days' work into two, and found ourselves at Morenci with a "no appointment" for the next day, so at 6 p.m., decided to set out for the top of the world that night. My associate, who is very young, said "let's go"; the filling station man said "69 miles to the next

house—take you four hours"—my associate, still very young, said "I'll make it in an hour and a half". We gyrated around, ten thousand feet up on the edge of a precipice, on a black night, but we did make it in three and a half hours. Never again for me unless I can see what I am doing and where going.

There is a comfortable lodge at the Meadow, and a good supper set me right again; so next morning I was up soon after daybreak, hunting for iris. It was a month too early for bloom; they can be expected by June 20. The foliage was just appearing, deer were grazing but scary of human beings; wild turkeys did not mind me, and there were lots of them. I looked for some old seed pods, but grazing or trampling had destroyed them at the nine thousand feet level. Coming on north to Alpine, I saw many clones along the road side, and at something higher than 7,000 feet, I saw seed pods growing by a fence where they had some protection from trampling. The pods had burst and scattered the seed except for the lowest one or two in each pod. I managed to collect about 40 seeds, so I felt satisfied and repaid for the fears and tension of the previous evening.—ROY W. FEILDING, Calif.

CAN YOU HELP?

This past spring, I saw an iris in bloom so unlike anything that I have seen or heard about in my 15 years of growing them, that I wonder if you can identify it for me, as I would greatly like to have it. The plant is low growing, under 30", but not a dwarf. It is typical Pogoniris Section—narrow beard on falls only, yellow and whitish at the base. Some veining at the haft, but not a great deal. Extra long perianth, at least 2", and small ovary. But the texture of the petals amazed me—the entire surface of the falls was covered with tiny upstanding "horns," growing very crinkled and ruffled towards the edge, even back of the falls or underside was horned and peaked. Standards are horned in the same manner, growing

so crinkled and ruffled toward the top it is literally laced with holes and feathers off at the top edges in little tendrils. The one I saw had four blossoms on a stem, nicely placed, and I thought them of good size, considering the height of the plant; color white with a faint blue shading. The foliage also was different, leaves had "bumps" running the length, somewhat like the horned affect of the petals. If you can identify this iris, and if you know a source of supply I would be so happy to hear from you.—H. F. BLACK, N.Y.

THREE SUGGESTIONS

I have just finished reading the new Bulletin and am particularly interested in Mr. Kelley's letter and the answers he received.

I am a new member and feel much the same as some of the members who answered him. I am moderately interested in hybridizing but primarily interested in growing iris just because it is a beautiful flower and a garden asset.

In my estimation, the Bulletin is an excellent publication for the experts and professional iris growers but for the average flower enthusiast it is almost too technical. If the Iris Society wishes to obtain and hold new members, it should hold the interest of the average gardener who has a small amount of time to give to his hobby.

I would like to hear the reactions of others to several suggestions I have, as follows:

1. A national iris catalog sponsored by the AIS. This catalog to have descriptions and growing information for each iris listed. An alternate to this could be a seal of approval by the AIS on all iris that have been tested and proved. Iris catalogs today are misleading and hardiness is not considered. From my limited experience I have found some well known iris that do not grow successfully in my section. I would like to buy some fairly expensive plants but cannot afford to buy a \$5 plant if it cannot survive because of climatic conditions. Cannot we have

an iris catalog that really means something—not a bunch of pretty pictures?

2. I would like to analyze an article in the newest Bulletin—"Varietal Comments" on page 47. Every comment is a favorable one. I can't believe that all irises are perfect. I would prefer remarks on their bad points as well as their good points, so I would know what to expect if I purchased one. Most reports on garden trips are the same. Very seldom do we have a criticism or derogatory remark on any iris.

3. I'm getting very tired of reading of Louisiana iris. I cannot afford them after seeing the prices—especially since I have not been assured that they are hardy in my section. The last three issues of the Bulletin have featured Louisiana and environs, and I think the subject matter should be more varied. Why not have some articles on the experiences of men like Kleinsorge, Milliken, Sass, Etc. These men must have a lot of interesting stories on iris growing.

"Our Members Write" and "Questions and Answers" are very interesting and helpful to me.

In spite of my criticism I think the Bulletin and AIS are very worthwhile and I do not intend to drop out.—FRANK J. MEYER, N.Y.

CANDIDATE FOR AIS "WOMAN OF THE YEAR"

With aching muscles, a blistered back and a sigh of considerable relief, I am at last ready to offer you 44 new AIS members. Each has already received from me ten good irises or more. You'll see they are well scattered over the state and were mostly recruited from those who came during the "Open Gardens" of the Raleigh Garden Club. I even signed up a Virginian! I can understand so very well why the plan as offered by the AIS for new members a couple of years ago didn't work. It is a real chore to dig and label irises and pack and ship boxes, but good too. So many of those people really love them and will get great pleasure from them.

I am going to send you a few kodachromes to look at as soon as I get a few more back. I am using a pitch fork with mat board nailed to it quite effectively for back ground.—ISABELLE B. HENDERSON, N.C.

TB HAS TWO MEANINGS

A little over a year ago I became a member of the AIS after watching my wife's birthday gift (from her husband) bloom and thrive down in the back yard, and may I add that every minute of it has been fun. I came out of the navy, after the last world war almost an invalid, and have spent the largest part of the time since then in bed. It was while I had to be in bed most of the time that I became so interested in iris. In the first issue of *The Bulletin* that I received after joining, I noticed an advertisement for iris seed. I ordered the catalog and after looking it over I was not sure that I wanted to go on with iris as a hobby, but sent Dr. Lewis Clevenger of Kirksville, Mo., a check for \$5.00 and told him to send me what he thought I needed as a beginner. Dr. Clevenger was more than liberal in his seed count and I have found that it is not only seed with which he is liberal, but with his plants and information for beginners. I have written him dozens of letters and cards asking for information from him and have every answer or letter filed for future use, and consider them very valuable.

I am sure that there are others in the American Iris Society who would be more than glad to do what Dr. Clevenger has done but I would just like for others to know what a swell fellow he is. I am sure that his interest in me has had a lot to do with my recovery from T. B. I would also like to tell other members of AIS that if they know of any one who is making a fight against this disease please relieve your pent up iris enthusiasm on this person and see if he doesn't get the iris bug or virus. Take some color catalogues, like Cooley's, Longs and others, a few *Bulletins* and a book like

"The Iris," "Iris for Every Garden," or "Irises, Their Culture and Selection," then see that they see a few blooms and watch the results. I have read in one of the back numbers of the *Bulletin* that one cannot afford to die if they have a bunch of seedlings to bloom in the spring and believe me, I for one can really appreciate that and only wish that I had started years ago. I have ordered from Nashville twenty back numbers of the *Bulletin* and have read every word in most of them. I wish there was more reading material on iris for I am about out of anything to read for this winter.

I do not know of any one else in this section of Arkansas who is doing any hybridizing and would like so much to find a buddy that I could swap ideas with, but have had no luck so far. I look forward to the issue of the *Bulletin* when you will list the present members and may find some one near who is interested in iris hybridizing.

I have made up my mind to be like Dave Hall, Dr. Kleinsorge and others and will not introduce an iris until I am sure it has the qualities to make it go places, but I have noticed that every one does not agree on the color classification now being used so how would a poor dumb creature like me be expected to know how to describe a color. While on the subject of color . . . how in the world am I to know what the color Ball Gown (page 93 of the last *Bulletin*) is? I can understand that TB means Tall Bearded in the *Iris Bulletins* and Tuberculosis when I am reading about my ailment, which I now have about whipped. What the 35 means I do not know except it could be average height. LaM I take to mean Midseason late, but ORD/v5 beats me. Please, please remember that we are not all Lewis Clevengers, Dave Halls and Geddes Douglasses.

One other thing that I do not remember seeing in all of my reading is, should our iris seed beds that have been planted only one year be kept watered during the hot dry summer

when the larger plants are dormant? I have removed a great number of seedlings from the bed this spring and am keeping it intact for the seed that germinate next spring.

What are the advantages of Life Membership, and the other memberships besides that of Common Member, such as I am at the present? I am sure that I will be a member the rest of my life but do not know about this membership business. I sent in my membership dues July 28, 1950 and in the first Bulletin that I received there was a list of new members who had joined between May 15 and August 1, 1950 and I took it that my name had come in too late to make that Bulletin, but do you know I have never seen a list on new members since that issue. Could it have been that you had a lot of extra space in that issue and have not had it to spare since then? You may wonder why I want my name in the Bulletin as a new member . . . well I will tell you, I ordered a catalog from a dealer and in my request I mentioned seeing their name as an advertiser in the Bulletin and when the catalog came I noticed that some one had penciled by my name on the address side, "Check AIS list." I am thinking that they looked to see if I was really interested in iris or just wanted another catalog like some of us did when we were kids and just wanted to get mail. This is why I want my name published in the list of new members.

I now have about 130 varieties of TB iris that I have bought from Cooleys and Dr. Clevenger (including the ones Dr. Clevenger has given me), and would be glad to have visitors if any member happens to come my way. I hope to be able to make the St. Louis meeting next spring if I am able and am sure that I will. In the meantime if I, as a beginner, can do anything to help the AIS please call upon me.—
JACK GREER, Ark.

MOHR GENIUS

Another iris bloom season is past and again I write to the Bulletin, this

time to give credit if possible to Mr. P. R. Johnson of Bremerton, Washington. I first heard mention of him in an article by John Ohl in the April 1951 Bulletin. Since he was practically in my own back yard, and I am very much interested in the Onco and Mohr line of breeding, I got in touch with him. This spring I went over to Granger, Washington, to see his Wm. Mohr seedlings.

Mr. Johnson is a rather small man 71 years old who has made plans for the next 29 years. It wouldn't surprise me if he makes his schedule. A retired printer whose main interest is in hybridizing peonies, he became interested in Wm. Mohr because he read that it was almost impossible to get seed from it. He believes too many people do the easy things, so he concentrated on Wm. Mohr alone. His first tries were about as meager of results as others who have tried to get seed on Wm. Mohr. Determined to get results he abandoned individual, tagged pollinations and used mass methods with mixed pollen. This may make many breeders shudder, but it resulted in the flowering of over 350 seedlings. Many of his seedlings are fine huge well formed flowers that range from buff to blue and red. Several are well worth introduction in spite of the low opinion some seem to hold for the Mohrs. He has generously allowed me to have a good many of his seedlings on a guest basis, which gives me a great opportunity to further develop this line.

In evaluating his work I would say there is still definite possibilities in Wm. Mohr, but the outstanding seedlings are painfully few. To the outstanding Mohrs should be added the blood of other Onco species to bring to them the charm and character of the Lady Mohr type flower. I have heard it said that when you see one Wm. Mohr seedling you have seen them all. This is true until you have seen Mr. Johnson's seedlings. His work deserves much more recognition than it has received. Only those who have worked with Wm.

Mohr can know what it means to flower 350 seedlings from this difficult parent. I have set out myself about 300 seedlings this summer that involve Mohr, Onco, or regelia blood but although I've done a lot of work myself on Wm. Mohr, not one seed germinated this spring, and my seed crop this year should come out about a round half dozen seed.—FRED R. CRANDALL, Wash.

TOO MUCH TRASH

Speaking of seedlings, I am convinced, more than ever, that far too many of these are being introduced, among them an awful lot of trash. The slightest color variation, it would seem, is all the average breeder needs. The four most prominent catalogers in the country this year list sixty-two new varieties; one-fourth of that number would seem more logical. A few more years of this and our hobby will be a dead duck. Dahlias and peonies died this way. Furthermore, not even the most fanatical of us can cope with this wild orgy. I buy a dozen new varieties each year, choosing those which appear to have merit. Out of last year's purchases, only three seemed good, and the year before was no better. So, I spent \$500 to add a half-dozen new things to my garden.—M. D. NAYLOR, Utah.

NOTES ON CROSSES

A few notes on '49 and '50 crosses from a rank amateur that may interest amateur hybridizers of tall bearded.

HELEN MCGREGOR—Tried five crosses. Seed, none fertile, no pollen here (first year).

ALASTOR—Sets seed but did not germinate first year.

LADY MOHR—Very good seed parent.

RED GLEAM—Very good seed parent.

RED DOUGLAS—Very good pollen parent.

CHINA MAID X SAMOVER—Poor substance in all seedlings.

MOONLIT SEA X GOLDEN MAJESTY—Very poor seedlings.

ELMOHR X LATE SUN—One seedling did not bloom.

ELMOHR X DOG ROSE—Two seedlings did not bloom.

BUFFAWN—Very good seed parent.

INSPIRATION—Very good pollen parent.

MEXICO—Three crosses produced 73 seedlings using Buffawn, Late Sun and Louvois pollen.

MIDWEST GEM—Favorite seed parent.

MIDWEST GEM X GRAND CANYON—Hardest seedlings to cull.

If you like blends, large, tall, crinkled flaring 'n everything, try this latter cross.

We were about to discard our iris last year due to leaf spot, but this year, although we had a late wet spring, we have very little, and the seed are almost ripe (June 26). We credit it to the rigorous sanitation plus 3 sprayings with Fungosol & Fermate mixed 1 tbs. each with $\frac{1}{2}$ tbs. Du Pont Spreader per gallon, prior to blooming.

In spite of healthy plants, 20% of 150 named varieties failed to bloom, and more crosses failed than ever before, but we don't blame it on the spraying for leaf spot as others had the same results.—C. B. SAMUELSON, Calif.

GERMINATION EXPERIMENT

When I called at Cornell while passing through the States I was sorry to find that you, Dr. Randolph, were away in Mexico. I wanted to discuss with you some work I was doing unofficially on the germination of seed of bearded iris. On my return I did not write to you as I hoped that I might be able to continue the study but at last I have regretfully reached the conclusion that this is unlikely.

My work was based on the results of your study on germination of iris seed, published some years ago in the Bulletin of the American Iris Society. As a result of consideration of your results I decided to try various treatments as I felt that many amateur and professional iris breeders would not have the facilities or ability to do embryo culture work. Repetition of various treatments you mentioned confirmed your observations e. g. effect of cold treat-

ment, leaching, decapping seeds to expose embryo tips, etc.

Chemical treatment of intact seeds gave some interesting results. Preliminary work indicated that soaking in potassium nitrate solutions and in dilute hydrogen peroxide had some effect in increasing the number of seeds germinating in the first season (seeds treated and sown in autumn, germination counts early spring). Thiourea solutions resulted in considerably earlier germination but did not appreciably increase the total number germinating in the first spring. Treated seeds were sown 1" deep in moderately heavy soil.

Further work gave the following results:

(1) Control (water soaked 2 days) 18% germination.

(2) Soaked 2 days in 1% KNO₃ 48%.

(3) Soaked 2 days in 0.25% thiourea 52% (very even germination about 5 weeks earlier than (1) and (2)).

(4) Soaked 2 days in 1% KNO₃ plus 0.25% thiourea 72% (early germination).

In this season, germination of untreated seed was much poorer than usual. The early germination obtained with the thiourea treatments resulted in considerably larger plants being obtained during the season. I do not know if the percentage of plants flowering the following spring was increased.

These promising results lead me to further experiments which confirmed the value of the combination of KNO₃ and thiourea but insufficient work was done to determine if the optimum concentrations were used. There appeared to be little difference between 0.5% and 1% solutions of KNO₃ and between 0.25% and 0.5% thiourea.

In the spring of 1949 the following results were obtained (200 seeds in each treatment):

(1) Untreated seed sown 1½" deep, 48% irregular germination.

(2) Untreated seed sown 1" deep, 28% irregular germination.

(3) Untreated seed sown 2" deep, 4% irregular germination.

(4) Control soaked 2 days sown 1" deep, 28% irregular germination.

(5) Soaked in water 2 days, dried and resoaked, 32% irregular germination.

(6) Soaked in water 2 days, dried, then in 1% KNO₃ 2 days, 60% irregular germination.

(7) Soaked in water 2 days, dried, then 1% KNO₃ plus 0.25% thiourea 2 days, very early and even germination.

(8) Soaked in water 2 days, dried, then dilute H₂O₂ 2 days, 48%.

(9) Soaked in water 2 days, dried, then dilute H₂O₂ plus 0.25% thiourea, nil.

No further controlled work has been done but for two seasons Mrs. Stevens (the iris breeder) has treated all her seed (without water presoak) and finds total germination (first season) to be greater and germination takes place about 6 weeks earlier than is normal. I feel sure that improvements could still be made and regret that I cannot continue with this interesting study.

A further point which may be of interest to you is in connection with the decapping of the embryo. I found that soaking the decapped seed in 0.1% BAL for 24 hours resulted in immediate germination of the seeds. Intact seeds did not respond. Again insufficient work was done to establish the optimum concentration of BAL though it appears that there is no sharp optimum concentration.

I pass on to you these results in the hope that they may be of use to you or to other investigators.

Regarding bearded iris generally. I grow a fair number of varieties but have done no breeding. I had hoped I might do some work with the dwarfs but the difficulty over here is that dollar restrictions practically preclude the obtaining of newer varieties and it seems to me to be useless starting with varieties which are already superseded.—B. W. DOAK, *Assistant Director*, Dept. of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Zealand.

REPORT FROM MISSOURI

I feel that you would be, to some extent, interested in a report from Southwest Missouri.

First of all, this was not an "iris year" in our section. We did not have enough moisture during the winter and early spring. We had several freezing drizzles that left our iris covered for several days with a coating of ice. Some may say this does not damage the iris but I believe it does. Our iris was late in putting out the bud stalks, and two days of freezing weather at the time these were coming killed hundreds of them.

This was not so noticeable on old established clumps: the bud stalks on the outer edges of these clumps were frozen but those in the center seemed to be protected enough to withstand the low temperature. Iris growers who had large clumps came through with plenty of blooms but generally speaking 75% of our iris did not bloom.

Our iris show in Neosho was held on Saturday, May 12th. I have one iris that in spite of all the weather handicaps performed beautifully. It is Even Glow, introduced by Dr. Clevenger of Kirksville. Three days before our show I had a perfect specimen, if I ever saw one. Extra large perfect bloom that stayed perfect in rain and wind; tall sturdy and perfectly straight stem; all buds evenly placed. The top bloom did not look good enough to enter in our show after three days, but as I had a display of iris not entered in competition, I placed this on display. It attracted as much attention as did the sweepstakes winner.

The following Saturday, May 19th, I entered a specimen of this iris in the Joplin show and while it was not the perfect specimen that the first one was, it was good enough to receive a blue ribbon, and we had rain and wind for three days before the show. Even Glow has what it takes to withstand rain.

The outstanding white iris at the Neosho show was Vigil. This is certainly a beauty. Gudrun was the best white at the Joplin and Pierce City

shows. Other blue ribbon winners at these three shows were:

El Capitan, Chivalry, The Bishop, Nightfall, Fantasy, Hoosier Sunrise, Indian Chief, Cherio, Golden Hind, Happy Days, Melanie, Bryce Canyon, Tiffany, Blue Shimmer, Buccaneer, Wabash, Red Valor, Thuratus, Salar, Pale Moonlight, Lake George, Great Lakes, Joyance, Howdy, Mt. Snow, Ormaco, Black Banner, Master Charles, Missouri, The Admiral, Blue Boy, Exclusive, Magic Carpet, Gypsy Baron, Mulberry Rose, San Antone, Cascade Splendor, The Red Douglas, Bright Wings, Lady Louise, Golden Majesty, Desert Song, Naranja, Yellow Jewel, Berkley Gold, Balmung, Morocco Rose, Azure Skies, Flora Zenor, Pretty Quadroon, Spring Cloud, Golden Spike.

With a few exceptions these winners are several years old, some so old that they are not listed in the catalogues anymore. It was the old established clumps that came through for us this past season. Many of my newer high-priced "babies" utterly failed and those that did bloom were nothing to brag about.

I sometimes wonder if we are not too prone to be "off with the old and on with the new." The iris that attracted the most attention in my garden the past two years have been the old ones, the kind you can buy for four bits and many for two bits. I think I am through paying ten, fifteen, and twenty dollars for iris.

This spring I won the Silver medal at the Neosho show and the following week won it at the Joplin show AND I DID NOT HAVE A SINGLE HIGH-PRICED IRIS ENTERED. Last year I won the Bronze medal at Neosho and the same was true of my entries.

I have one section of iris that I am experimenting with. It has never been my custom to use commercial fertilizer but on this one section I have used a new fertilizer called "Sup-Ro" and next spring I will have the answer. I may be sorry but so far the results seem OK. No sign of rot; roots are large and numerous and the fans are green

and healthy looking—no leaf spot or blight of any kind, in fact this section makes my other iris look like * * *.

An iris rhizome is an unpredictable thing. Last July I separated some old clumps and had about twenty-five that I did not have room for, so just left them in a crate out in the yard under a large bush. I did not get around to make room for them and when winter came forgot all about them. The first part of March I noticed that new fans had started—the poor things had been out of the ground since July, exposed to everything the weather man threw at us and still wanted to live.

I had a lot of vacant places in one of my rose beds, so I put all these in the rose bed. This bed of course has been fertilized many times and this is why I have started using "Sup-ro" on one section. These rhizomes that had been out of the ground for months took hold right now and many of them bloomed, in fact I won a red ribbon on one at the Joplin show.

We had one rather unpleasant thing happen at our Neosho show. Some of our visitors from Eastern Kansas claimed that the sweepstakes winner was mis-named—it was Melanie. They claimed that it was a much different shade of pink than Melanie should be. Would a difference in the quality or richness of soil make a difference in the color of an iris? I noticed that the iris of mine in the rich rose bed mentioned above seemed to be of a deeper color, if you know what I am driving at. The blue seemed to be bluer and the yellow a brighter yellow. Last July I had an extra Wineberry and an extra Sunset Blaze that I placed in my rose bed. They both bloomed this spring. The Wineberry was much deeper in color than the ones in my regular bed and there was so much difference that someone could have claimed it was mis-named. I know it is not, because I separated it, planted it and tagged it myself.—R. E. ARMSTRONG, Mo.

OUT OF SEASON BORERS

Unfortunately I have had more experience with the borer than anyone

else in Nashville. I commented at length on this in the article entitled "Post-Season Meditations" in Bulletin 110, issued in July 1948. Since then I have managed to keep the borer sufficiently under control so that it is only a minor annoyance, but I still have quite a bit of it. The control has mainly consisted in checking the garden very carefully during and immediately after the blooming season, cutting off the fans where borers were present.

I have been very interested in the spraying program recommended for borer control but so far have found it difficult to carry this out properly. It was originally recommended that the garden be sprayed once a week between the time growth started and the time bloom began. More lately it has been reported that three sprayings spread over this period are sufficient for a good control. This technique, however, was worked out in Northern gardens where the period, from the time growth starts until bloom, is relatively short and marked by steady growth. In the South, however, a warm spell may start the irises growing in January, and very often this happens in late February. What is one to do—start spraying as soon as growth starts or wait and give three sprayings between the first of April and the first of May? A cold winter made growth late in starting this past season and I fully intended getting in three sprayings. It is a big job to spray a planting as large as mine, including two years of seedlings carried over. First one thing and the other interfered with it. The rains came at the wrong time or I was out of town; the man who was to help with the spraying got sick, and the power sprayer broke down. The result was that the garden was only sprayed once. It did not seem to me, however, that there was quite as many subsequent borers as there had been last year and the year before.

It has been suggested that the infestation I have is not the true borer, *Macronoctua onusta*, but I think it is, although I am not in the slightest de-

gree an entomologist. The way the grubs work in the iris fan, the damage they do, is absolutely typical of all the descriptions I have read and what I have observed in Northern gardens. I have never found any egg clusters, but I have not looked for them particularly. Also I have never found any adult moths in the Fall, but again I have made no effort to trap them. Several years ago in digging iris clumps in the late Summer I found pupae in the ground which were typical of the pictures and descriptions I have read. I put some of these in a box and kept them until they hatched out, and the dark moths were true to Bulletin descriptions. The only thing that has not been typical is that I have never found a grub two inches long or anything like that long in the rhizomes that I have dug. In my garden it would take a good sized rhizome on a growing fan to accommodate a borer that size.

There are a lot of unanswered questions in my mind about the borer. Do they start hatching out in my garden with the first warm spell in late winter? If so, are the tiny borers killed by subsequent freezes or are they hardy enough to escape at least in part? Do they hatch out in response to warmth or does the amount of light or length of day have something to do with it? It is well established that they do not hatch out all at the same time which is the reason repeated sprayings are necessary. Even if those emerging early are killed in late freezes there would still be an infestation from those hatching late. In my garden in Nashville, where borers formerly did not exist, there may have been a selection of those hatching late so that the strain now present mostly misses the late freezes. Is this possible?

How late can this hatching continue? Everything I have read infers that spraying could be stopped at blooming time. The presumption is that practically all the borers have hatched and that those that escaped previous sprayings are already on the inside of the fans. In Nashville, however, our bloom-

ing season, even at the latest, is practically over by the 15th or 20th of May. In mid-June of this year I found several instances of small borers in fans. On July 14th I found a borer about one-half inch long in a fan about an inch above the root. My last question, therefore, is this—are these instances of very late hatching or do they indicate the possibility of some emergence of moths in the Spring as well as in the Fall?—JESSE WILLS, Tenn.

I have completely digested the July issue of the AIS. I feel that the article "Varietal Comments" is not too useful for the reason that the comments are those found in any catalogue for the most part. The comments given on Fort Knox, Spun Gold and Casa Morena, for example, give good comments regarding these varieties. I know that Zantha is a large golden yellow, but what I am interested in is how well it grows even though that may not be in my region. On this subject I feel that fewer varieties commented on but with definite statements in regard to hardiness, susceptibility to different adverse conditions, etc., would be very interesting and informative.

"How to Plant Iris" is good and the type of thing the newer (and some older) members can really profit from. Is it possible to run a similar item or items on judging good iris in the garden or on the show floor?—WILBERT G. SINDT, Minn.

Yes, it is possible to present a pictorial treatise in judging. Unfortunately, we will have to wait until next year in order to get the proper subjects for the photographs.—THE EDITOR.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—

I'm writing to ask if you have ever heard of an iris with four falls?

Today I found a bloom on Apache with four falls, and every fall differently marked. One fall is marked as it should be. One has a dark red vein in the center of the fall. One half is a plain wine, the other half is oddly

marked and veined. The fourth fall is devoid of markings, and is the same shade as the standards.

There is a seed pod of a previous bloom beside this oddity, on the same stem. I have clipped and waxed this bloom to try to preserve it.

I felt the Society would be interested in this unusual bloom. This is the first I ever saw with four falls and am interested in knowing if any other member has had one.—MRS. OSCAR WEST, Penna.

Certain varieties show a definite propensity toward blooming with more than the requisite number of falls or standards. One such variety which comes to mind is the Hall introduction Fantasy. Fantasy very often blooms with four falls and four standards. I have had a good many seedlings to do this in my yard and I note that many of them come from the old iris Jean Cayeaux. Sometimes the different segments are marked in an unusual manner just as you state in your letter. I think that you will find that in another year the iris will behave quite normally. Some varieties will produce this phenomenon more often than others.—GEDDES DOUGLAS, Tenn.

What iris are valuable for clearing veining in hafts in seedlings of blues, reds and brown colored iris?

I have discarded all but two of my iris seedlings, because of haft veining, so must begin all over again.

Is there a hybridizing Robin that I may join in this Eastern part of the country? I have so very much to learn before I can hope to accomplish anything of value.—MRS. C. A. BAHRET, Conn.

Thank you for your kind letter. I think I can help you a little bit in suggesting varieties that will clear up haft markings. In the blues if you will use Helen McGregor and Chivalry I think you will find that haft markings will disappear. I have a late blooming variety called Extravaganza which has practically no haft markings and when it is crossed with other varieties its seedlings come out remarkably free from haft markings. You will be able to get various types of reds and purples, variegatas and blends by using Extravaganza. If you are interested in breeding browns why don't you try some of Dr. Kleinsorge's tannish browns? They seem to have nice hafts although I haven't used them. Juliet and Good News are two that come to mind.

Regarding the Robins: I believe I would contact Mrs. C. W. Vallette of Declo, Idaho. She will be able to put you in touch with the proper person in order to join a Robin in the eastern half of the United States.—GEDDES DOUGLAS, Tenn.

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